# National Anti-Slavery Standard.

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## Selections.

From the Indiana True Democrat.

### EPISTLE

TO ALL TRUE AND SINCERE HEARTED FRIENDS, WHEREVER SCATTERED ABROAD.

Dear Friends:—We have again been permitted to meet together; and in the abundant goodness of our Heavenly Father, we have been made feelingly to acknowledge that it has been good for us to be here. We have been made sensible, notwithstanding our many weaknesses and infirmities, that He has not forsaken us in this time of deep trial, but has been pleased to lift up the light of His glorious countenance upon us, through which we have been made to rejoice together as in His holy presence.

And we trust it is not presuming in us to say that, under a feeling of that love that binds together the whole heritage of God, we have felt drawn to address you—to salute you as our dear Brethren and Sisters—brethren of the same household of faith: for we feel assured that nothing but a lack of proper information can induce any who love the Lord Jesus Christ and His holy cause, to cast a censure on us for our present position as regards Society—a position that it has cost us so much to maintain. None but God alone, who, knowing the heart, knows what many have endured in this conflict, but amidst it all, they have at seasons been made to rejoice that they have been counted worthy to suffer for the cause of their Holy Redeemer. It was and is still in order to maintain the testimony of Truth, against Slavery in all its various ramifications, that we have felt ourselves bound to assume and now feel compelled to maintain our present organization as the Society of Friends.

Where is the Friend, who is one in deed and truth, who could have advised, when the alternative was set before us, either to cease our active efforts on behalf of the Slave, or leave the organization we were then in, that we should have chosen the former? But these were the circumstances surrounding us and the alternatives presented us. In viewing the condition of the Society of Friends throughout the world, we have been made deeply to mourn the great unfaithfulness of many of its members in regard to its long standing testimony against this crying evil, and the sorrowful prevalence of that spirit which is willing to sacrifice principle—yes, the testimony of truth and of a good conscience rather than endure the scoffs of a frowning world, or part with the smiles of their fellow men. Ah, "how can ye believe when ye seek honor one of another, and seek not that honor which cometh from God only." Our Holy Redeemer used this very solemn and warning language. "He that denieth me before men, him will I deny before my Father which is in Heaven."

This is indeed an awful reflection. We have already set forth very fully the causes which led to the secession. It may not therefore be needful to do more on this occasion than concisely to state, that having been awakened by the convictions of our own minds, and strengthened by the long cherished testimony and action of the Society of Friends—to use every effort, consistent with the maintainence of the principles and testimonies of the Society for the purpose of ridding our Coutry and the world of the destructive evils of Slavery—we hailed with satifaction, and endeavored to further, as opportunity offered, the concern of the Yearly Meeting of London, as communicated in the Epistles and Minutes of that body. For this consistent course we were adjudged by the Indiana Yearly Meeting, to be unfit to hold any of the various offices of usefulness in the Church—unfit to be on committees on religious, or even on educational subjects! When brought into this painful position, could we hesitate? could we let fall whatsoever our Divine Lord has laid upon us, as servants (unworthy indeed), but accountable to Him in the judgment of the great day? Could we let fall the cause of the poor down-trodden, bleeding Slave? and thust cast discouragement into all ranks of the Advocates of humanity.

It was a day of deep conflict and searching of heart; believing, however, that the Lord would not forsake those who trust in Him, desire to seek and serve him alone and to be guided by His Divine wisdom—we followed the opening presented to us—organized as a separate Body, believing in, loving and bound in heart, to maintain the principles, doctrines, discipline and practices of the Society of Friends, as set forth by the worthies who were first made instrumental in gathering it, and maintained by a remnant to this day. And, thanks be unto God! He hath provided all sufficient for those of us who, cleaving to Him alone, have labored in simplicity, amidst all the discouragements of the day, to serve and glorify Him, and to promote the cause of Truth. Little as we may have done, comparatively, for the cause of the oppressed Slave, we believe that little has aided in keeping alive public interest on a question vitally affecting the best interests of our Country and the world, and essentially bound up with the interests of religion and humanity. Nor have there been wanting many opportunities of aiding the poor victims of oppression from time to time—in their destitution and distress; and we may thankfully acknowledge that we reap an abundant harvest, in that peace of mind which results from a lively desire, and active effort, to be at our posts in the discharge of these important duties. We have further the satisfaction of knowing, that He who, we believe, led us in this arduous path, hath touched, and is touching, the hearts of many of various religious professions, with a sense of the awful responsibility resting on each member of any organization—by which each participates in a degree in the sins and deficiencies of the body of which he is a member, even as he also claims and is ever willing to claim share in its merits.*

Individuals here and there, and in some instances numbers of the more conscientious members of various religious Societies, have felt imperatively called upon to sever themselves, at the sacrifice of much that was interwoven into their best affections, from the bodies they were members of, and which they loved, that they might no longer partake of their sins—and that they might have the opportunity of discharging their duties to God and man unfettered by the untaithfulness of the body. For such as these we feel much sympathy, and in the following of the love of God shed abroad at times in our hearts, can but desire that they may be preserved on every hand sustained in every hour of conflicts, and enabled through Divine aid, to serve God and the cause of humanity with singleness of heart and purpose, to their own peace of mind and well being here and hereafter.

And, dear Friends, you to whom we have been led to address this Epistle, may you be strengthened by the Great Head of the Church, to labor faithfully for the reform of all that need reform amongst and around you—and may you be increasingly prospered in the work until there may be, by the increased purity and faithfulness of the Church, a gathering of her scattered members into that unity in which they rejoice in feeling themselves to be in the one fold, under the one Shepherd, and wherein, banded together also in outward organization, they can feel to be one another's joy in the Lord.

And now, in conclusion, whilst we are very sensible that dark clouds overshadow the Christian's path, both as regards the hope of deliverance for the poor oppressed bondsman, and in many other respects, yet we are cheered at times, by an apprehension that we perceive signs of the intervention of His Divine Hand who came to break every yoke, to proclaim Liberty to the Captive, and the opening of the prison doors to them that are bound—to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord—to comfort all that mourn. May we all be as co-workers with Him, in however humble a degree and sphere; be diligent—availing ourselves of every opportunity of pleading the cause of the oppressed—thus shall we deliver our own souls—be clear of the blood of all men, and our labor will not be in vain, in the Lord.

With the salutation of Love, we are your Friends.

Signed in and on behalf, and by direction of Indiana Yearly Meeting of A. S. Friends, held 10th mo. 3rd, 1850.

WALTER EDGERTON, } Clerks.
REBECCA EDGERTON, }

*So long indeed as there is opportunity for labor, and hope of reforming the body, the duty of continuing the connexion may be unquestionable, but the history of the Church, in all ages, proves that there have been times when the sincere hearted have felt that at the sacrifice of much that they loved they must depart.

From the (Edinburg) Press.

### AMERICAN SLAVERY.

On Monday evening the annual meeting of the Edinburg Ladies' Emancipation Society was held in Nicolson Street Church. The audience was large and respectable; a considerable amount of interest having been excited by the intimation that William and Ellen Crafts, fugitive slaves from America, were to be present, the former of whom was to deliver an address. On the platform we observed the Rev. Dr. Ritchie, the Rev. George Johnston, the Rev. J. R. Campbell, the Rev. A. Nicol, Councillor Tod, Mr. H. Wigham, Mr. J. H. Stott, Mr. Millar, Mr Thomson, Mr. Purves, Mr. Crowe, missionary from Gautemala, &c., &c.

On the motion of Councillor Tod, the Rev Dr. Ritchie was called to the chair.

The Chairman having opened the meeting with prayer, observed that although one better qualified than he to occupy the chair might easily have been found, there would be some difficulty experienced in pitching upon one more willing or ready to promote the great cause which had brought them together this evening. It was more than half a century since he first embarked his energies in the cause of the poor down-trodden slave, and he looked back with feelings of pleasure to the time when he co-operated with such men as Wilberforce, Zachary Macaulay, Fowell Buxton, and many others, in endeavoring to secure liberty and freedom for the oppressed. He need not tell those whom he saw before him that they were on the right side. (Applause.) What were they contending for? Just to have it broadly stated and admitted by all that man is man—that man has a right over his own body, his own mind, his own conscience, and his own soul; and that he is entitled to the produce of the labor of his own hands. (Hear, hear.) After making some remarks on the American Fugitive Slave Bill, the Rev. Dr. called on the Secretary to read the report for the last year.

Mr. H. Wigham, Secretary to the Society, then read the report of the proceedings of the Association during the last year. The report contained an able synopsis of the progress which has been recently made in the Anti-Slavery Cause, and concluded by calling upon the friends of the slave to exert themselves, even more vigorously than heretofore, in their efforts to deal a death-blow to the accursed system, which holds in chains millions of our fellow-creatures.

Mr. J. H. Stott moved that the report be adopted, printed, and circulated. He said that the report was so excellent, that he need not say a word in support of his motion, and he should, therefore, content himself with advising every lady present, who was not already connected with the Association, to join it without delay.

Mr. Millar seconded the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. William Wells Brown, a fugitive slave, moved the second resolution;—"Being renewedly impressed with the iniquity of Slavery in all its phases, resolved, that we adopt every means in our power to promote its overthrow, by circulating information, so that an enlightened public opinion in this country may react on that of America, by testifying against all union with slaveholders, religious, social, or commercial, and maintaining a preference for the products of free over those of slave labor, by watching over the interests of our freed colored fellow-subjects in the West Indies, by continuing to assist the true-hearted laborers in the Anti-Slavery field, wherever they are to be found, by our unwearied vigilance in the cause of the oppressed, and by increasing earnestness in imploring Divine blessing to crown our labors with success." After supporting at some length the various propositions embodied in the above resolution, Mr. Brown remarked that at present there was good ground for hope as to the ultimate success of the Anti-Slavery movement. During the last five or six years many new instrumentalities had been brought into operation in the United States; many new converts had been added to the ranks of the Abolitionists; and many individuals who formerly cared nothing for his enslaved countrymen were now laboring zealously to procure their emancipation. Every session of Congress they heard of some new member coming forward as a noble advocate of the rights of the slave. Every new election gave evidence of the fact that the Anti-Slavery movement was progressing. Some might have been discouraged to a considerable extent by the passing of the Fugitive Slave Bill, but he (Mr. Brown) believed that the passing of that measure was to be looked upon as a last desperate struggle on the part of the slaveholders. (Hear, hear.) It appeared, in fact, to be a manœuvre by certain parties who wished to get into the Presidential chair, but he believed that that very move would have the effect of throwing these parties aside. The passage of that Bill had roused up a feeling in the Free States that was never known before. It stirred up the whites to examine carefully into the condition of the colored people in the United States, and it had stirred up the colored people to watch more narrowly over their own rights and to labor more zealously for the overthrow of Slavery. It had also put new life into the efforts of the Abolitionists, and the effect of this revived energy was to be seen in the recent elections. These were cheering signs of the times, and he would urge upon the friends of the slave to take encouragement from the cheering tidings that daily reached them, and manfully to go forward. (Applause.)

Mr. Purves seconded the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. William Crafts, who was received with loud cheers, next addressed the meeting. He said—It affords me great pleasure to meet with you here this evening, not because I feel capable of interesting you with a speech, but because I feel myself in the midst of friends, amongst whom I can exclaim, Thank God, I am free! (Applause.) It is only two years since I escaped from Slavery, and previous to my escape I was unable to read a syllable. I hope, then, if I should speak ungrammatically, or so as not to be clearly understood, that my friends will attribute it, not to any neglect of mine or of my parents, but to that accursed system which kept me in a state of ignorance. (Hear, hear.) My wife and I escaped together from Georgia, and came on to Boston, a distance of 2000 miles. We remained quietly in Boston for about two years, till the passage of the Fugitive Slave Bill. A couple of ruffians, who were hired by the men that claimed us as slaves to come to Boston and arrest us, got out warrants for our apprehension and placed them in the hands of the District Marshal; but, for some reason or other, the Marshal refused to execute them. He knew that we had been slaves, and that, from knowing what Slavery was, I was prepared to protect myself and my wife at all hazards against a United States Marshal or anybody else that attempted to drag us back to bondage. (Loud applause.) A Committee of Vigilance was formed in Boston for the purpose of protecting us and other fugitive slaves who should be claimed under the new law; but we were compelled in the end to flee to a country where we could feel ourselves in greater security. But I suppose it will be more interesting if I give an account of the manner in which we made our escape from Georgia. (Applause.) My wife belonged to one family and I to another, and we contrived plans for many years, both before and after our marriage, to escape from Georgia. At last we came to the conclusion that my wife should disguise herself in gentleman's apparel (Mrs. Crafts being a white woman,) that I should attend her as her servant. I sent to work, therefore, and collected the clothes necessary to enable us to accomplish our purpose, buying one article of dress at one time and another at another. When everything was ready my wife told her mistress that her aunt, who lived at a place about twelve miles off, was very ill, and that she was exceedingly anxious to go and see her before she died. Her mistress refused at first to let her away, but my wife, after a great deal of crying, succeeded in getting her consent. I then told the man for for whom I was working, who had hired me from my master, that my wife was going to see her sick aunt, and that I wished to go along with her, and at last I was permitted to go. But my wife, instead of going to see her aunt, went to see her uncle in Philadelphia. (Laughter.) She got herself dressed as a gentleman, and pretending that she was suffering severely from inflammatory rheumatism, told the people we came in contact with, while travelling northwards, that she was going to consult her uncle, who was an eminent physician in Philadelphia. The morning after we received permission to pay a visit to her aunt, I cut her hair square off, dressed her up in the clothes I had procured, and provided her with a pair of green spectacles. A poultice was applied to her right hand, for not being able to write, we were afraid that she would be discovered when requested to register her name at the hotels, &c. We travelled first to Savannah, and then took the steam-boat to Charleston in South Carolina. When we arrived there, our luggage was taken off, and we went to a hotel. When we got to the hotel we had a room to ourselves, and the first thing I did was to purchase two hot poultices, one for the face of my poor master, and the other to bind up her hand. (Laughter.) I then went to the kitchen and blackened my master's boots. My master was asked down to dinner, and took it along with a number of gentlemen, who were in the hotel, while I was sent to the kitchen to eat some scraps with a rusty knife and fork. But I did not eat very much; I was not very hungry about that time. (Applause.) After dinner I went to see how master was getting along, and it was soon time for us to go down to the steamboat again. She was so lame on account of the inflammatory rheumatism, that as we went down to the steamboat I had to hold her by the arm to prevent her from falling. (Laughter.) When we went to the steamboat office, my master asked for a ticket for herself and servant to Philadelphia. I was asked where we came from, and I said we came from Atalanta, which is distant about a hundred miles from the place we belonged to, so that if they thought of telegraphing back, they might be put on a wrong scent. When we were about to leave the office my wife was asked to register her name. She pointed to her poulticed hand, and requested the clerk to do it for her, but he said it was not in accordance with his duty. The captain of the boat, however, who was in the office, said he would put down the name, and accordingly entered the name "William Johnston" in the clerks books. We soon arrived at Wilmington, where we took the railway cars, and travelled on through Virginia. At Petersburg an old gentleman with some nice daughters got into the car along with us. The old gentleman commenced a conversation with my master, who told him we were from Georgia, and that she was going to see her uncle in Philadelphia, in order to be cured of her inflammatory rheumatism. The old gentleman said, "Ah! I know what that is: I know how to sympathize with you." And if he did know what inflammatory rheumatism was, he knew more than my master did. After some conversation the old gentleman suggested to my master that she should lie down on the sofa at the end of the car, and asked if she would not suffer him to take off her boots, for the sake of giving her ease. She very willingly consented, so as to be freed from the necessity of talking. After she had lain down for some time, I heard one of the young ladies remarking, "this is a very nice young man, I never felt so much for a young man in my life." (Great laughter.) After lying on the sofa for a considerable time, my master rose, and got some cakes and candies from the young ladies. They enjoyed themselves together very finely, till at last the old gentleman with his daughters got out at Richmond, Virginia; before he left us he gave my master his address, and said he and his daughters would be very happy to receive a visit from him, whenever he should find it convenient. My master, of course, thanked him very kindly and promised to give him a call when she went that way again. But I guess that she wont go that way again very soon.—(Laughter.) We went on, then to Fredericksburgh—from Fredricksburgh we went to Washington, and thence to Baltimore, where we arrived on the third day from the time when we made our escape. At Baltimore officers were appointed to prevent fugitive slaves from escaping to Philadelphia, and as we were stepping into the cars a man accosted me and asked me where I was going. I said I belonged to a sick young gentleman who was travelling to Philadelphia. I was then told that it was against the rules to let any slaves pass along without having first been examined at the office. So we went to the railway office, and the clerk asked, "Is this your servant?" She said I was. "Well," said he, "it is against our rules to allow any slaves to go along here, unless security is given that all is right. You must get some gentleman who knows you to certify that you have a right to take this slave along with you." She said she had bought tickets in Charleston to carry herself and her servant through to Philadelphia, and that she was acquainted with several gentlemen, but did not know that it was necessary to bring them along with her to certify that she was master of her own slave. "You must stay here then," said the clerk, "as it is against our rules to let you pass." But in the end, after some minutes' consultation with the other clerks, he said, "Well, I don't know what to do about it; he is a sick young fellow, and I suppose I must tell the conductor to let him and his slave pass along." About five o'clock next morning we arrived in Philadelphia, and went to a hotel for colored people, to which we had been recommended by a fellow-passenger. After being in the house for a short time I told the landlord who we were. He introduced us to Mr. William Wells Brown and other friends; but it was thought the safest plan that we should go on to Boston, where we resided in peace and quiet till the passage of the Fugitive Slave Bill. Mr. Crafts concluded by stating that he always felt embarrassed in relating the manner of their escape, on account of the deception which they were obliged to use; but he believed that the greatest portion of the guilt of that deception belonged to the system under which they had formerly groaned.

Considerable disappointment was felt on account of the absence of Ellen Crafts, who was detained by illness. It was stated, however, that she was expected to be present at the meeting in Brighton Street Church on Thursday night.

The Rev. George Johnston moved the next resolution:—"That we reprobate in the strongest manner the Fugitive Slave Law, which has recently been passed by the United States, Congress; and deeply sympathize with all who are now suffering, and liable to suffer, from its enforcement, while we cordially welcome William and Ellen Crafts to these shores, where they are safe from the pursuit of the inhuman slavehunter." In reference to the last part of his resolution, Mr. Johnston said that he need not ask this meeting to welcome William and Ellen Crafts to our shores, and to say to them, "We give you a cordial welcome; here you can breathe the air of freedom." They must have felt, when they set their feet on the shores of Britian, how true were the words of the poet Cowper—

"England cannot bear a slave;
He that breathes the air of England must be free."

(Applause.) And free they were. No Fugitive Slave Bill could reach them here. He would call, therefore, upon this meeting to congratulate William and Ellen Crafts on the freedom which they had so heroically obtained for themselves. He would say nothing of the means by which they obtained their freedom. He would make no remark upon the system of deception which they were compelled to practise while journeying over those thousand perilous miles; but, if there was one thing more than another which they had heard to-night that was calculated to fix in their minds an utter detestation of the horrid system of Slavery, it was this very circumstance that they had been compelled to practise so much deception in gaining their freedom. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. R. Campbell said he thought what had been stated about eloquence and grammaticalness and all that sort of thing in reference to Mr. Crafts was quite unnecessary, for it did not require grammar to make a man, a Christian, or an eloquent pleader, and such a pleader they had heard to-night (Applause.) In regard to the system of deception which had been practised, it struck him (Mr. Campbell) that there was a somewhat ingenious and vrey intelligible allegory running throughout the greater part of the story. He was quite sure, from what he had heard that Ellen Crafts was a man every inch of her, so that there was no deception in that part of the story. (Loud applause.) As to her being sick of inflammatory rheumatism, it was pretty evident that she was heartily sick of the accursed system of Slavery. (Hear, hear.) Her right arm was buckled up; and was not the right arm of her power, and strength, and vigour, weakened and diseased when she could not call her husband her own,—when he was the slave of another master? (Applause.) When her husband said he was her servant, that was what husbands said to their wives every day. (Laughter.) The circumstance of her applying poultices to her hand and face to get rid of the inflammatory rheumatism, might teach the lesson that it would require something better than Colonization Societies and such like, to heal Slavery. (Applause.) He was, therefore, perfectly satisfied of the truthfulness of the whole story, viewing it as an allegory. (Laughter and applause.) He was not disposed, then to be very casuistical or censorious in the matter, but he thoroughly went along with the sentiment expressed by Mr. Johnston, that if there was one thing more than another that should lead them determinedly, and with their whole hearts, to hate the abominable system of Slavery, it was the circumstance that a man and woman, impelled by the strong instincts that God had implanted in their hearts, should be driven to such deception in order to secure for themselves their inalienable rights as human beings. (Applause.)

Mr. Crowe, missionary from Guatemala, supported the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Thompson, a vote of thanks was then cordially passed to the Rev. Dr. Ritchie for his conduct in the chair, and the meeting separated.

From the (London) Anti-Slavery Reporter.

### TREATMENT OF BRITISH COLORED SUBJECTS IN THE UNITED STATES—FUGITIVES IN CANADA.

We beg to direct the attention of our readers to the memorial recently forwarded to Lord Palmerston on two points of practical importance. We have no doubt but that they will cordially acquiesce in the propriety of this appeal, and sustain the Anti-Slavery Committee in their endeavors to secure the objects aimed at.

*To the Right Hon. Lord Palmerston, &c. &c.*

My Lord: The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have felt it to be their duty, on several important occasions, to direct your lordship's attention to the laws which exist in the Southern or slave States of the United States, affecting colored persons, the subjects of this kingdom, who may have occasion to resort thither for business or other lawful purposes. These particular laws, and the police regulations founded upon them in Southern ports, infringe the just liberties of a large body of mariners, and, independently of the wrong which they inflict on them, they seriously interfere with the commercial pursuits of British merchants and ship owners.

Every colored person, as your lordship is aware, is seized, the moment he reaches those ports, as if he were a felon, taken to the common jail, and there kept until the departure of the vessel on board which he had been engaged as a seaman; and what adds indignity to this monstrous proceeding is, that they are taken from on board British vessels, covered by the British flag, in defiance of treaties which exist between this country and the United States, which guarantee protection and security to the subjects and citizens of the two countries within their respective dominions, when pursuing their lawful business.

The plea set up, that the Southern States are slave States, and therefore require laws of this kind to protect the institutions of Slavery, cannot, the Committee conceive, be admitted to be of any value, as against British subjects of any class. But, in addition to this, the Committee would observe that the treaties of amity and commerce, which this country has with the United States, are not made with the several States, but with the Federal Government, representing the entire Union; this country, therefore, cannot recognise a local legislation, which infringes the stipulations of such general treaties. They would, therefore, respectfully urge upon your lordship the necessity of applying a suro remedy to this monstrous grievance, by urging upon the Federal Government of the United States, either to call upon the several States, in which such exceptional laws exist, so to modify or to repeal them, as to bring them into harmony with the just claims of this country, or, by an Act of the United States Congress, to set aside such laws as conflict with existing treaties, and the rights of British subjects, without distinction of color.

Another point which the Committee are anxious to bring under your lordship's attention, is, the liability of fugitive slaves, who seek refuge from the oppression of their masters in Canada, under the plea that they have committed crimes which bring them within the scope of the extradition clause of the Ashburton treaty. Your lordship is aware of a recent law, passed by the Congress of the United States, of a most cruel and unchristian character, for the capture of fugitive slaves, who have fled into the free States. In consequence of the terror occasioned by this inhuman piece of legislation, large numbers of colored persons, who were usefully engaged in the free States, have been compelled to fly from their homes, and to seek refuge within the Queen's dominions. Their can be no doubt that great efforts will be made, by unprincipled men from the South, to get up charges against some of these unhappy persons, with a view of dragging them back into Slavery. By the law of nature and of nations, a slave is undoubtedly entitled to effect his escape from bondage, and to use or take such things as he may require to accomplish his object. It is therefore not improbable that applications may be made to the authorities in Canada, for the delivery of colored persons on all sorts of charges; and inasmuch as they cannot be demanded as fugitive slaves, but as criminals, the greatest care must be taken by the magistracy in Canada, or else the most grievous injustice and wrong may be done to persons whose sole crime has been their escape from Slavery. The Committee would, therefore, earnestly ask of your lordship to forward such instructions as shall effectually protect the fugitive slaves, who may seek any asylum under the British Crown, from recapture; and thus vindicate the great principle of the right of every human being to his personal liberty, and this country from the dishonor of aiding and abetting the slaveholders of the United States in the accomplishment of their nefarious designs.

I have the honor to be
(On behalf of the Committee)
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) John Scoble, Secretary.

Anti-Slavery Office, 27, New Broad-street,
20th December, 1850.

In addition to the foregoing, a copy of the following memorial to Lord Aberdeen, dated 22d February, 1843, was transmitted to Lord Palmerston, from which we make lengthened extracts, as they will show the views of the Committee on the extradition clause of the Ashburton treaty:

My Lord: Deeply impressed with the importance of the subject, and convinced that it requires and deserves the most mature consideration of her Majesty's Government, the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society venture respectfully to call your early and serious attention to the bearing of the extradition clause of the treaty recently negotiated between the Government of this country and that of the United States, in the case of the fugitive slaves who have sought a refuge from oppression within the British dominions.

It has long been one of the chief glories of this land, as it is now of all its dependencies in the Western World, that the moment a slave touched its soil he was free, and became entitled to protection for his life, his liberty, and his property. The Committee, however, conceive that the clause referred to may become a weapon in the hands of the slaveholder for destroying the dearest rights of humanity—for violating the sanctuary of freedom in this country—and for compelling British functionaries of every class to become to the oppressor instruments of tyranny, in restoring to perpetual bondage his lost and highly-coveted prey. The operation of the clause extends to every part of the British dominions, including Great Britain and Ireland. Besides murder, *assault* with intent to commit murder, piracy, arson, and forgery, it embraces every imaginable offence comprehended within the term robbery. It provides that a single justice of the peace shall be competent to decide on the committal of the accused, on *ex parte* evidence—it may be the oath of a single witness, or the attested affidavit of a suborned person in the United States. Moreover, it gives no power to the executive to withhold the warrant of surrender in any case where the terms of the clause have been complied with. All that it requires is such *prima facie* evidence of criminality as, according to the laws of the place where the fugitive is found, would justify his apprehension and commitment for trial; and the surrender follows, as a matter of course.

In the case of a free man charged with a criminal offence, the barest amount of evidence is sufficient to warrant commitment and delivery; but, in his case, ample provision is made by law for his trial before an impartial tribunal, by a jury of his peers, with every possible means of defence that equity and humanity can afford; if innocent, he is acquitted; if falsely charged, he has his remedy; if guilty, he suffers that amount of punishment only awarded by the law against all similarly circumstanced with himself. The case is otherwise with the fugitive slave. On the barest amount of evidence, he also may be committed and delivered. But no impartial trial awaits him—no jury of his peers pronounces on his guilt or innocence—no means of defence are provided for him. His fellow-slaves may be witnesses against, but not for him, nor against his master. His accuser may be a slaveholder; his jury, slaveholders; his judge, a slaveholder. Thus circumstanced, though he may be innocent, his escape from conviction is next to impossible; but should he be honorably acquitted, he is not, therefore, liberated from suffering. He falls into the hands of an infuriated master, to suffer the degration and horrors of perpetual Slavery, and the infliction of punishments the most terrible and revolting. But if found guilty, he is subjected to a far heavier punishment than if he were a free man. In Virginia, an old slave State, wilfully setting fire to any barn, &c., or advising &c., the perpetration of such offence, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, payment of the value of the property destroyed, and imprisonment for not less than two, nor more than five years. Breaking into any warehouse or storehouse, and taking money or goods to the value of four dollars, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, imprisonment for not less than *one*, nor more than ten years. Horse-stealing, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, restoring property stolen, and imprisonment for not less than five, or more than ten years. *Attempting* to commit a rape on a white woman, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, not a statutable offence, but punishable as an assault and battery, by a fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court. Burglary, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, imprisonment for not less than five, nor more than ten years.

In Mississippi, a new slave State, wilfully burning a barn or stable, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, imprisonment, not exceeding six months, and paying damages. *Assault*, with intent to commit murder, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, a fine at the discretion of the Court, and imprisonment not exceeding one year, and exaction of surety of the peace. Attempting to commit rape, burglary, and robbery, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a free man, imprisonment not exceeding one year. Horse-stealing, in the case of a slave, *death*—in that of a freeman not provided for by statute.

These are given by way of specimen; but in looking over the various codes of laws now in operation in the United States, the Committee find that there are no less than seventy-one crimes punishable with death in the case of slaves; whilst in that of free men, for the same crimes, the highest penalty is imprisonment in the penitentiary. Surely, my lord, it were the height of injustice, as well as cruelty, to surrender slaves to the vengeance of such laws, especially when it is considered that, in the event of capital conviction taking place, the value of the slave is paid for by the State, so that the master is no loser by his death, but a gainer in every case where the slave is surrendered for an alleged infringment of the laws. This leads the Committee to observe, that in case of venial, or, it may be, even of grave offences, committed by free men, the injured party may not, for various reasons, pursue them; but the motives on the part of the slaveholders to pursue their slaves, are of the strongest kind. They have a large pecuniary stake in fugitive slaves; they fear the contagion of their example; and will use every means for recovering them, that they may not only demonstrate the insecurity of the British territory as an asylum of freedom, but for the purpose of striking terror into their miserable companions in bondage, by the severity of their punishment, or even by their death. It may, therefore, be fully calculated upon, that if they have the least ground on which to found a charge, they will avail themselves of it, to regain their victims; and it may be feared that, when no offence against law has actually been committed, or can be maintained before any competent tribunal, attempts will be made to obtain them by thousands of ways, in which iniquity often triumphs over justice. Moreover, as the recovery of fugitive slaves is deemed a matter of serious importance by slaveholders generally, they will be ready to sympathise with, and eager to aid any of their fellows in accomplishing, to them, so desirable and necessary an object. The clause of the treaty referred to, enables them to do this, by affording them the best, because the easiest, the least expensive, and most effectual way of satisfying their cupidity and glutting their vengeance. That clause enables them to seize fugitive slaves even in the streets of London, to place them in custody, and by false accusations, and the foulest means, to obtain possession of their persons, for the purpose of hurling them back again into bondage more dreadful than that from which they escaped at the peril of their lives. Surely, my lord, the British Government can never be parties to so fearful a result as this.

The Committee cannot enter into the discussion of the policy or impolicy of the general principle involved in the extradition clause—they refer that to the wisdom of the Governmont and Legislature; but they cannot willingly be parties to any arrangment which involves the possibility of the restoration of fugitive slaves to bondage, or which renders any part of the British dominions less the asylum of liberty than it is at present. They therefore earnestly beseech your lordship that, in the contemplated Act of Parliament for giving that clause effect, the government will be pleased to provide that it shall not, under any circumstances, or under any pretext whatsoever, apply to the case of fugitive slaves, but that they shall be wholly excepted from its operation.

On behalf of the Committee.
(Signed) Thomas Clarkson.

### GOVERNORS' MESSAGES ON SLAVERY.

Governor Hunt of this State said in his message to the Assembly at the Commencement of the Session:

The provision of the federal compact requiring the return of "fugitives from labor," however repugnant to the sentiments of many of our people, is of paramount authority, and like every other constitutional obligation should be observed in good faith. In legislating upon a subject of such difficulty, it was obvious that more than usual care was necessary, that in enforcing the claims of one section of the country, we should not trespass upon the rights of the other. While the claim of the Southern slaveholder to recapture his slave is fully admitted, the right of the Northern freeman to prove and defend his freedom is equally sacred. Both are alike under the protecting care of our common Constitution.

It cannot be denied that the recent act of Congress for giving fuller effect to the provisions requiring the return of fugitive slaves, has excited dissatisfaction in many portions of the country, carrying them almost to the extreme of threatening resistance to the law. But all good citizens will recollect that, whatever may be their individual feelings or opinions in regard to the policy or propriety of any legislative enactment, it is their plain duty, so long as it remains in force, to sustain the authorities legitimately charged with its execution.

Apprehensions have been entertained that, under the hastily considered provisions of the act, passed during a period of unusual agitation, persons of color claiming to be free, and really free, are not allowed those reasonable opportunities and those customary legal safeguards, necessary to enable them to establish by adequate proof the fact of their freedom.—A recent case has shewn this belief to be not merely speculative, and that the danger that a freeman, under the summary mode in which that law can be executed, may be hurried into captivity, is not wholly imaginary.

We cannot and we do not believe that the South, any more than the North, aims at, or desires such a result,—or will insist on retaining provisions leading to such exciting consequence. We shall rely not only on their sense of propriety and reciprocal justice, but their calm conviction that the law itself to be permanent, must be reasonable, for their uniting after due reflection, with their brethren of the North in a kind and dispassionate spirit, in reviewing such clauses as may be found defective or objectionable, and in consenting to such judicious modifications as may command general approval.

In the meantime, our people must be left free to examine its provisions and practical operation.—Their vital and fundamental right to discuss the merits of this or any other law passed by their representatives, constitutes the very basis of our republican system, and can never be surrendered. Any attempt to restrain it would be far more dangerous than its freest exercise. But in all such discussions we should divest ourselves of sectional or partizan prejudice, and exercise a spirit of comprehensive patriotism, respecting alike the rights of every portion of our common country.

—Governor Boutwell of Massachusetts, who is invested with that dignity by virtue of the Knavery of his own party, and the simplicity of the Free Soilers, thus deprecates the agitation, but for which, he would still have been an obscure village attorney:

In ordinary times I should omit the discussion of topics which are national in their character; but the excitement which has sprung from the institution of Slavery, and the examination of questions connected with it, seem to justify some deviation from the general policy.

The institution of Slavery is older than our government, and is one of the most important subjects which the American moralist or statesman can contemplate. It exists in nearly one half of the States of this Union and is recognized by the Constitution which has been adopted by all. Where it exists it is regarded as a benefit; where it does not exist it is regarded as an evil.

One portion of the country has a pecuniary interest in its existence, equal to many hundred millions of dollars; the other regards it as a moral, political, social and industrial evil which dishonors labor, and degrades the laborer within the sphere of its influence. The actual conflict of these opposite interest and opinions, unless regulated by the Constitution, would end in the destruction of the American Union.

It may not, then, be inappropriate to consider how far the institution of Slavery is a general subject of legislation, and therefore of general political interest and how far its existence and responsibility are local and the subjects of local legislation only.

By the peace of 1783 each of the thirteen former colonies rose at once to the rank of a free and sovereign State; having the right, of course, as such, to abolish any of its old institutions, or to establish new ones. The Constitution of 1789 neither added to, nor materially diminished these powers, It did not recognize any of the existing institutions of the States except so far as was necessary to render the general government a perfect and harmonious system.

It was absolutely necessary to determine the basis of representation and taxation among the States.—The provision for the delivery of fugitives from service or labor was in the nature of a treaty between sovereign States, and for its fulfilment the general government was clothed with sufficient authority.—If it appear from the language of the Constitution that the manner of delivery should be left to the several States, the Supreme Court appears to have decided otherwise. It must then be considered as settled, that the manner of delivery is to be determined by Congress. As this body represents all the States and all the people, its acts are binding upon every State and each citizen, unless the judicial tribunals shall declare them to be unconstitutional.—A law thus passed may be, in the opinion of a State or an individual, unjust, inexpedient, or unconstitutional: yet this opinion furnishes no excuse for illegally nullifying its power or resisting its execution.

A remedy for its injustice or inexpediency must be sought in the legislative, and for its unconstitutionality in the judicial departments of the Government. Until there can be a successful appeal in one or the other of these forms, no true citizen can interfere with the due execution of the law.

There is no security for person and property, for life and liberty, in any other doctrine than this. If a State have a right to nullify, or a citizen to resist an act of Congress, our government ceases to be a government of laws, and becomes one of man.

I have not made these observations because I think that it is in Massachusetts only or chiefly that the doctrine of obedience to the law should be inculcated. Her people are a law-abiding people. Whatever she has of renown in the past, of prosperity in the present, or hope in the future, is intimately connected with this principle. But it is too true that some sections of the Union appear ready to threaten its existence upon occasions comparatively unimportant. And when a State seriously contemplates the dissolution of this Confederacy it is a solemn political event whether such State has or has not just cause for the position it takes. If, however, it shall pursue its suicidal course to extremities, it is important to every other State that the whole responsibility should be upon her. It is for this reason that I cannot advise the passage of any measure calculated to increase the excitement which unhappily exists even though that excitement have no just foundation.

While the act of 1850, for the delivery of fugitives from service, is binding upon us, it is just to say that in some of its provisions it appears not to have proper regard to the rights of the alleged fugitive, or to the sentiments of the community in which the law is to be executed.

If, however, the right of the slave States be admitted, the manner of delivery is principally important in one point of view. If, under color or sanc-

tion of the law, free citizens shall be consigned to Slavery, it will be the duty of all just and considerate men of every party and every section to unite in the removal of its obnoxious features.

The provision of the Constitution on which this law is based can never be properly construed, either by Congress or the Courts to endanger the liberties of free citizens.

But whatever may be our opinions of the policy of the Government or the course of particular States, all of us must admit that the evils we suffer in the Union are not to be compared with that general ruin which will inevitably result from its dissolution. If we shall exhibit in the present crisis a liberal spirit of patriotism and justice we may reasonably expect to secure moderation by other States of the Confederacy. If this expectation shall not be realized the consequences will be upon others and not upon us. I think Massachusetts can afford to take a leading position in this matter. Her free institutions have given to the North a vast increase of wealth and numbers. The census of 1850 will establish its power in the House of Representatives by a delegation hardly less than two-thirds of the whole number. By the admission of California we have a majority of two in the Senate; while the majority in both branches is destined to be increased by the freedom of Delaware and the admission of Oregon, New Mexico and Minesota, within the present ten years. In the view of the positive and prospective power of the North, there seems to be no occasion to despair either of our free institutions or our country.

The entire coast of the Pacific is dedicated to freedom. The commerce of the country is in the hands of the North. These are important facts in determining the future relative power of the two sections of the country.

It was not more certain in the warlike ages of the world that the inferior race must give way to the superior, than it is in this commercial age that every involuntary system must gradually bend before the hardihood and enterprise of the intelligent and independent laboring classes of the country.

Let us have confidence in the almost universal opinion of the world that Slavery is a great evil,—in the character of our institutions which favor freedom and not servitude,—in the power of free labor systems,—and, above all, in the adventurous, yet conservative spirit of the North, which rapidly converts the unexplored regions of the West into populous and influential States.

In the consciousness of strength let us be just; and as we fulfil our treaty stipulations with foreign Governments, whose institutions we do not approve, let us faithfully perform the duties our fathers assumed, for themselves and for us, to the sovereign States of this Confederacy.

—Of the Fugitive Slave Law Governor Johnston of Pa. thus Speaks;

"That part of the law which authorizes the creation of a new and irresponsible tribunal under the name of Commissioners, is liable to exception. Waiving the inquiry whether the judicial power of the United States can be vested anywhere but in regularly organized courts, with the records of courts, there are objections of serious import to the institution of this tribunal.—All history shows, that special tribunals, clothed with discretionary powers over person and property, are liable to abuse, and have been instruments of oppression. If in these, the early days of the Republic, when no reason of urgent state necessity can be invoked, powers of a high judicial nature over the liberty and property of an individual, are to be vested by appointment of an inferior tribunal, in an irresponsible person, the security of the life, reputation, and liberty of the citizens in after times, when new political or social emergencies may arise, will depend on a most precarious tenure.

"The courts of the United States, whose Judges have a pride of character, and over whom a controlling influence is exerted by the impeachment clause of the constitution, should alone be invested with these extraordinary powers. Rather than hazard the chances of illegal decisions, and the consequent irreparable injury of an individual, results, so full of danger to the peace and good order of society, the judicial power of the nation might wisely be extended. If it be deemed expedient to deny a trial by jury, and lodge the adjudication of this right of property in the breast of a single judge, the kind of proof required should be indicated, and a full record of the entire proceedings be made and preserved. Processes issued should be returned, and the extradition of any colored person, for whose arrest a warrant had issued without hearing had before the judge, should be visited with the penalties of kidnapping. These modifications of the law, while they could not interfere with the rights of the owner of the fugitive, would greatly tend to satisfy the minds of citizens anxiously desirous to perform their constitutional duties."

—THE RECENT SLAVE CASE.—The card of Mr. Wm. Parker, the agent who reclaimed Henry Long, (published in the Richmond papers, and republished in New York,) contains the following paragraph:

"The opposition and delay caused by the generous swearing of Mr. Jay and certain of his demented coadjutors, should, perhaps, rather excite our pity than our indignation, evincing, as it does, the intensity of their moral blindness and stupidity. Mr. White, it is believed, took no part in this foul proceeding."

As Mr. Parker professes to speak from personal knowledge, and makes this statement under his own signature, and is certified by one of the Richmond editors to be a respectable person, it may be proper to correct one or two of its errors in fact.

Mr. Jay was not a witness in the case, nor made any affidavit in the progress of it, nor did any swearing "generous," or otherwise. The writs of *habeas corpus* were obtained for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of the law, and the validity of the claimant's proceedings before Mr. Hall. Those proceedings, the counsel for the defense early advised the claimant to be invalid, and as he virtually admitted the fact after eight days had elapsed, by discontinuing the suit before Mr. Hall, and recommencing it before Judge Judson, that delay is properly attributable to his original mistake and his tardiness in correcting it.

Before Judge Judson, the proceedings were delayed not by the defense, but by the Judge's illness, and the witnesses who appeared for Long, and testified to having known him in New York, evidently swore to the best of their knowledge and belief, which in the case of one of them, was sustained by a written memorandum found in Long's possession, bearing date in January 7, 1848. If their mistake (admitting them to have been mistaken in regard to the time) proved "the intensity of their moral blindness and stupidity," the same remark would be equally applicable to Dr. Parker who, in his affidavit before Mr. Hall, swore that Long escaped about the month of January, 1848, and in the affidavit for the second warrant swore that he escaped in December, 1848.

In this City and State, where the counsel for the defense are known, an imputation of foul proceeding on their part, would sufficiently refuse itself. To persons at a distance ready to believe any slander against men bold enough to defend an alleged fugitive, in the face of an excited public opinion, it may be well to say that the defense was in all respects conducted with perfect fairness and courtesy; and that the Judge, in remanding the fugitive, bore testimony to the order and propriety which had marked the conduct of all persons attending the Court, including the colored friends of Long; and when Dr. Parker, to secure the services of the Marshal at the expense of the Treasury of the United States, in returning to Richmond, made an affidavit that there was reason to believe that Long would be rescued by force before he could be carried beyond the limits of this State, the Judge voluntarily declared his entire concurrence in the opinion expressed by Mr. Jay that nothing had occurred in the course of the trial or the behavior of the people to warrant such belief.—*Evening Post.*

The Card referred to above is as follows:

A CARD.

Contradictory statements having been made in regard to the case of the fugitive slave recently returned to our city, it has been thought proper to reconcile these statements as well as may be.

The tedious delay and heavy expense attending the case were rather *accidental*. Had it been practicable to have carried the fugitive on the day of his arrest before Judge Betts or Judge Judson, or before some *experienced* Commissioner, the care would most probably have been disposed of in a few hours; certainly, during the first or second day.

* * * * * * *

The conduct of the officers of Government concerned in this prosecution was highly commendable. They performed their duty with much marked promptness and courtesy.

The course taken by the Union Safety Committee was eminently praiseworthy. The expense borne by the Committee exceeded $500, while the costs incurred by the claimant amounted to about $300, which sum would also, perhaps, have been paid by the Committee, had it been deemed proper by the claimant to have made it known. There was also manifested much personal kindness towards the agent by several members of this Committee, together with other citizens of New York, which he will long remember with the liveliest gratitude.

And in conclusion, he desires to say, that he undertook this agency from no wish to test the act of Congress, nor the sincerity of the professed Northern Union men; nor from any personal interest whatever, but wholly from a sense of high and very peculiar obligations to Dr. Smith; and that now in reviewing calmly the whole proceeding in the case, he can find no word of complaint against the conduct or bearing towards himself of any respectable man with whom he came in contact while in New-York.

WILLIAM W. PARKER.

RICHMOND, Jan. 13, 1851.


# National Anti-Slavery Standard.

Without Concealment....Without Compromise.

*NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY* 30, 1851.


## ANTI-APIS.

Praisest Law, friend? We, too, love it much as they
that love it best;
'Tis the deep, august foundation, whereon Peace and
Justice rest;
On the rock primæval, hidden in the Past its bases be,
Block by block, the endeavoring Ages built it up to
what we see.

But dig down: the Old unbury: thou shalt find on
every stone
That each Age hath carved the symbol of what god to
them was known;
Ugly shapes and brutish sometimes, but the fairest
that they knew;
If their sight were dim and earthward, yet their hope
and aim were true.

Surely as the unconscious needle feels the far-off lode-
star draw,
So strives every gracious nature to at-one itself with
law,
And the elder Saints and Sages laid their pious frame-
works right
By a theocratic instinct covered from the people's
sight.

As their gods were, so their laws were; Thor the
strong could rieve and steal,
So through many a peaceful inlet tore the Norseman's
eager keel;
But a new law came when Christ came, and, not
blameless as before,
Can we, paying him our lip-tithes, gives our lives and
faiths to Thor?

Law is holy: aye, but what Law? Is there nothing
more divine
Than the patched-up broils of Congress—venal, full of
meat and wine?
Is there, say you, nothing higher? Naught, God save
us, that transcends
Laws of Cotton texture, wove by vulgar men for vulgar
ends?

Did Jehovah ask their counsel, or submit to them a
plan,
Ere he filled with loves, hopes, longings, this aspiring
heart of man?
For their edict does the soul wait, ere it swing round
tow'rd the pole
Of the true, the free, the God-willed, all that makes it
be a soul?

Law is holy; but not your law, ye who keep the tablets
whole
While ye dash the Law to pieces, shatter it in life and
soul;
Bearing up the Ark is lightsome, golden Apis hid
within,
While we Levites share the offerings, richer by the
people's sin.

Give to Cæsar what is Cæsar's? yea, but tell me, if you
can,
Is this superscription Cæsar's, here upon our brother
man?
Is not here some other's image, dark and sullied though
it be,
In this fellow-soul that worships, struggles God-ward
even as we?

It was not to such a future that the Mayflower's prow
was turned,
Not to such a faith the martyrs clung, exulting as they
burned,
Not by such laws are men fashioned, earnest, simple,
valiant, great
In the household virtues whereon rests the uncon-
querable State.

Ah, there *is* a higher gospel, overhead the God-roof
springs,
And each glad, obedient planet like a golden shuttle
sings
Through the web which Time is weaving in his never-
resting loom,
Weaving seasons many-colored, bringing prophecy to
doom.

Think you Truth a farthing rushlight, to be pinched
out when you will
With your deft official fingers, and your politician's
skill?
Is your God a wooden fetish, to be hidden out of sight,
That his block eyes may not see you do the thing that
is not right?

But the Destinies think not so: to their judgment-
chamber lone
Comes no noise of popular clamor, there Fame's trumpet
is not blown;
Your majorities they reck not—that you grant, but
then you say
That you differ from them somewhat—which is stronger,
you or they?

Patient are they as the insects that build islands in the
deep;
They hurl not the bolted thunder, but their silent way
they keep;
Where they have been, that we know; where Empires
towered that were not just,
Lo! the skulking wildfox scratches in a little heap of
dust.

J. R. L.

## STATE ACTION ON THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW.

Whether Congress will act this session upon the Fugitive Slave Law depends very much, no doubt, upon the action of the State Legislatures; the action of these Legislatures will be precisely what the people at large shall prompt. The motive-power of the Northern people, on the subject of Slavery—though it may seem not very modest, but none the less true for that, to say so—is the Abolitionists. Unless they do something nothing will be done, and the golden opportunity for agitation will be lost forever. Use breeds indifference, and apathy is already stealing over the people. The excitement, which a few months ago spread like wild-fire over the country, is gradually dying away, and incidents are now occurring weekly, almost unheeded, and in the capture of fugitives, and the kidnapping of free colored men, which would then have called forth an expression of indignation so universal and so earnest that against it no law could have stood a week. It is however, we believe, the expression only that is wanting and not the feeling. We cannot doubt that if the opportunity be given a very decided manifestation of hostility to the Fugitive Slave Law will be forthcoming, and that influence be brought to bear upon the State Legislatures and Congress which is needed to rouse and compel them to immediate action.

If this is done at all it must be by petitioning. Every man and woman in the country has a representative in the State Legislature, and it is only necessary that each constituent should go to work to influence that one man who represents him. It is a thing not hard to do, for the representative of a few thousand people, and personally known to many of them, is peculiarly susceptible of such influence. But who will bring it to bear upon him? Nobody but the Abolitionists. If they do not take the thing in hand it will not be done. It depends upon them whether Congress shall act on the Fugitive Slave Law this Session, or the colored people be liable, for another twelve-month, to be hunted down like wild beasts. It is palpably a case of individual responsibility resting with every Abolitionist.

The following petition now lies at this office for signatures. It is a good form, and one which may be signed by the most ultra Abolitionist, as well as those who agree with him only in opposition to the Fugitive Slave Law. There is not an Abolitionist in the State that can not get signatures to it, and of course not one but that should.

### MEMORIAL

TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

The undersigned, adult inhabitants of the County of ——, in the State of New York, respectfully ask that a Law may be enacted by your Honorable body, making it highly penal for any one to assist either directly or indirectly in removing from this State, against his will, any inhabitant thereof, unless the person so removed be arrested upon the requisition of the Governor of some other State, and is surrendered by the Executive of this State, or unless the person belongs to the army or navy of the United States, or unless he has been proved to be a fugitive from Slavery, in a fair Jury Trial, and by "due process of Law."

Your Memorialists also ask, that all Sheriffs and Jailors may be required, under sufficient penalties, to refuse the use of the Jails, City Prisons, and other places of confinement in this State to any or all persons arrested as Fugitive Slaves, with intent to remove them out of the State. And that all District Attorneys may be authorized and required, at the expense of the State, to defend any inhabitant thereof, seized with a view of removing him to Slavery. And that all other necessary and proper laws may be passed, adapted to protect the personal liberty and security of every inhabitant of this State, and to give each one a trial by Jury, and a right of Appeal to the highest legal tribunal in the State, when his right to personal liberty is involved.

A Bill for such a law, it will he remembered, has been introduced into the Assembly at Albany, but it will never be passed unless strongly backed by petitions. If the hundreds of thousands in the State who are opposed to slave-catching, should send word to that effect to the Capitol, we may be sure of seeing a good result; and the voice of New York will no more be unheeded at Washington, than that of her people will be in her own Legislature. Congress waits to know whether the Northern people care enough about this slave-hunting to enter their protest through her State Legislatures against it. What shall New York say?

## THE MAN-HUNT.

ANOTHER slave-case has occurred in Philadelphia, during the past week. One Stephen Bennett was arrested, while at work, in Columbia, Pa., on Thursday last, as a fugitive from the service of Edward H. Gallup, of Baltimore. He was taken before Commissioner Ingraham, and thence, by writ of *habeas corpus*, before Judge Kane. He would, no doubt, have been "delivered up," but his freedom was purchased by his friends.

The *Cincinnati Nonpareil* of the 21st gives the particulars of an arrest in that city as follows:

Last night, about 10 o'clock, a gentleman of New Orleans, named J. D'Arcy, (not Count D'Orsey,) laid claim to a respectable female of this city, who has resided for a considerable length of time in the vicinity of the Post Office The lady is of fair complexion, and was never suspected of being impregnated with negro blood. The Southern gentleman, however, claimed her as his slave, and made good his claim before a large meeting of citizens, and although we are grieved to lose so orderly, beautiful and valuable a citizen, the Fugitive Slave Law is all powerful, and our citizens will be compelled, though reluctantly, to consent that this lovely female shall be borne away to a land of Slavery. She is valued at $3,000.

—It is not necessary to suggest a motive for the high value put upon this woman. Miss Bremer, when in Cincinnati, a few weeks ago, wrote to a Colonization agent that "her nature is too adverse to polemics, to have been able to sympathize or to be warmed by the ultra Abolitionists. She, however, "adores the ideal, the perfect and true." As she is in Mobile now, we would, were she a friend of ours, recommend her to take a trip to New Orleans to attend the sale of this woman and learn her fate. It might give her a new "ideal," and a new understanding of abolition "polemics."

A correspondent of the *Lancaster (Pa.) Union*, under date of the 16th, gives the following particulars of a successful foray from over the border into that borrough a few days previous:

An outrage occurred in this neighborhood this week which was so shocking that the public should be made acquainted with it. On Second Day evening, between 7 and 8 o'clock, some one knocked at the door of the house of Marsh Chamberlain, a neighbor of mine, and the answer was given "come in." At once about six persons entered and made their way instantly toward a colored man who was sitting by the fire, and who was about putting on his shoes.

Seeing their purpose, he seized a pair of tongs to defend himself, but before he could use them he was knocked down and beaten severely. He was then dragged to the door, the individuals in the meantime beating him most cruelly. He was then gagged to quiet his cries, tied and dragged like a slain beast to a wagon, which was about 100 yards off, in readiness to receive him, and from there he was driven off, as it was afterward ascertained, instantly to the Maryland line, where he was handed over to other parties. The ground over which the man was dragged was deeply marked by his blood.

There was in Marsh Chamberlain's house, at the time the affair occurred, Thomas Pennington, an elderly man, down stairs, and a woman up stairs As soon as the colored man was knocked down, whether intentionally or not, the light was put out, and what followed was done in comparative darkness. The alarm was given as soon as possible, and a band of colored people, armed with double-barrelled guns, were soon on the ground; but they were a few moments too late, else a scene of slaughter would have probably ensued, more easily imagined than described. They pursued the kidnappers, but did not get on the right track.

It ought to be stated that this band of persons had no warrant or any legal process, nor were they accompanied by any officer They came from the "Gap Tavern," a notorious place in the neighborhood. They were joined by others outside of the house, when they brought the man out. Altogether there were not less than ten or twelve in number. The name of the victim was, I believe, John Williams. I have always regarded him as a free man, and he has been so regarded in the neighborhood, and there is no proof now that he was not

A month ago a man was carried off from this neighborhood in a way somewhat similar, and last week an attempt was made in this township, near the house of Dr. Duffield; but fortunately, was unsuccessful. The intended victim was attacked while he was at work in a barn, but defended himself with a pitchfork, and drove off his pursuers.

—The most zealous members of the Union Committee can hardly fail to be satisfied with so much work done in one week to "preserve the Union."

Of course there are many instances of successful captures which are never heard of except to the parties concerned. An occasional fact sometimes leaks out through Southern papers, as for instance the *Huntsville (Ala.) Advocate* of the 1st says:

Mr. Markwood of Washington County, Tenn., passed through our village on his way home from a tour to Michigan, with Thomas Chester, Esq., who had gone thither in pursuit of some slaves that had years ago escaped from his father, Dr. J. P Chester, of Jonesborough. Mr. Markwood stated in Greenville that they had succeeded in recovering *seven* of the slaves.

—And the *Memphis (Tenn.) Eagle* of a later date contains the following paragraph:

FACTS TO BE NOTED—Within the last few weeks, at least five fugitive slaves have been brought back to this city from free States, with as little trouble as would be had in recovering stray cows.

We occasionally receive letters notifying us that a slave, said to be the property of some one in this vicinity, *has been lodged in jail in Illinois or Indiana for his owner, who will please call, pay charges and take him away.*

A SLAVE CASE.—The Washington correspondent of the *Evening Post*, speaking of the recent debate in the Senate on the Slave Trade, relates the following, by no means uncommon, but very striking incident of the domestic traffic:

At this moment, under the roof which covers me, there toils in hopeless unremitted drudgery, an aged woman, whose wages are monthly received by a chivalrous popinjay, who has sold successively before her face the children of her womb, until, at three-score, she stands childless as Niobe and shattered as a reed, a monument of *our domestic slave trade.*

The last of this woman's progeny, the child of her stricken age, the luckless Benjamin of her scattered brood, was a crippled boy. Even, he, a very few months since, was sent to the shambles, without even a leave-taking from the anguished woman, because "niggers sold high." Her deep drawn sighs, as she drags herself day after day through her unabated tasks, are, to me, an eloquent comment upon *our domestic slave trade.* While such things may be heard and seen every day at our political metropolis, we need not be surprised that men are appalled at the "horrors of the middle passage." They have a view of some of them at their doors.

## THE POSTAGE REFORM.

THE following is the Bill for reducing Postage which has passed the House of Representatives, and is now before the Senate for concurrence:

AN ACT REDUCING POSTAGE.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted, &c. That letters carried in the mails of the United States shall be charged with postage as follows:

Upon each letter not weighing over one-half ounce, three cents; and for each additional half ounce, or fraction of half an ounce, three cents. Provided, That no Post Office now in existence shall be discontinued, nor shall the mail service, on any mail route in any of the States or Territories be discontinued or diminished in consequence of any diminution of the revenues that may result from this act. And provided further, That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to establish new Post Offices, and place the mail service on new mail routes established, or that may hereafter be established, in the same manner as though this act had not been passed. And provided further, That the compensation of the Postmasters shall not be diminished in consequence of the passage of this act.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, There shall be charged upon each newspaper, pamphlet, periodical, magazine, book, and every other description of printed matter, which shall be unconnected with any manuscript or written matter, and which it may be lawful to transmit through the mail, of no greater weight than two ounces, one cent; and for each additional ounce or fraction of an ounce, one cent. Bound books, not weighing over thirty ounces, shall be deemed mailable matter under the provisions of this section. Provided, That newspapers delivered in the State where printed shall be chargeable with only one-half the foregoing rates: Provided, further, That no postage shall be charged upon any newspaper mailed and delivered within the county where printed, or within thirty miles of the place where printed.

Provided, further, That the free circulation of newspapers within the county of their publication, or the distance of thirty miles of the place of publication, as hereinbefore provided, shall be confined to actual subscribers receiving their papers from the office of publication.

Provided, further, That fifty per cent. shall be deducted from the postage on magazines, when the postage shall be prepaid.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful to coin, at the Mint of the United States and its branches, a piece, of the denomination and legal value of three cents, or three hundredths of a dollar, to be composed of three-fourths silver and one-fourth copper, and to weigh twelve grains and three-eighths of a grain, that the said coin shall bear such devices as shall be conspicuously different from those of the silver coins, and of the gold dollar, but having the inscription "United States of America," and its denomination and date; and that it shall be a legal tender in payment of debts for all sums of thirty cents and under.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters, and other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable stamps of the denomination of three cents, to facilitate the prepayment of the postages provided for in this act. And any person who shall counterfeit, alter, or forge any letter-stamps, or shall knowingly have in his possession any false, forged, or altered letter-stamps, with intent to sell or use the same as genuine, shall be deemed to be guilty of felony, and be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or imprisonment not exceeding five years.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $1,500,000 to supply any deficiency that may arise in the Post Office Department.

SEC. 7. And be it further enacted, That lists of letters remaining uncalled for in any Post Office, for the space of two weeks, in any city, town or village, where a newspaper shall be printed, shall hereafter be published once only in a newspaper, which, being printed as frequently as any other, shall have the largest circulation within the range of delivery of said Office, to be decided by the Postmaster-General, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by him, at a charge not exceeding two and a half cents on each letter called for. And the Postmaster at such Office is hereby directed to post in a conspicuous place in his Office a copy of such list on the day or day after the publication thereof: Provided, however, If the publisher of any paper herein specified shall refuse to publish the list of letters as provided in this section, the Postmaster shall designate some other paper in which such list shall be published; and such publisher, so refusing, shall be deprived of all the benefits of this act, and the free exchange now provided by law.

SEC. 8. And be it further enacted, That it shall be in the power of the Postmaster-General, at all Post Offices where the Postmasters are appointed by the President of the United States, to establish post routes within the cities or towns, to provide for carrying the letters to the Post Office by establishing suitable and convenient places of deposit, and by employing carriers to receive and deposit them in the Post Office; and at all such offices it shall also be in his power to cause letters to be delivered by suitable carriers, to be appointed by him for that purpose, for which not exceeding one or two cents shall be charged, to be paid by the persons sending or receiving letters, and all sums so received shall be paid into the Post Office Department.

Provided, That the amount of compensation allowed by the Postmaster-General to carriers shall in no case exceed the amount paid into the Treasury by each town or city under the provisions of this section

## A DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER FOR AN OPPRESSED PEOPLE.

AN adjourned meeting of the Colored Clergymen of the city of New York was held in the Bethel Church, on the 20th inst, when, in consideration of the sufferings which the Colored people are called upon to endure and the dangers to which they are exposed it was

*Resolved*, That we recommend the *first Friday in March* next to be observed by our respective charges as a day of solemn prayer and fasting, beseeching Almighty God to interpose graciously by His power in our behalf and deliver us from our deep distress; That as primary objects of prayer, we pray for the immediate Abolition of Slavery with all its accompanying wickedness, in these United States; and secondly, that Protestantism may give evidences to the world, and particularly to us as a portion of the Protestant Church of this country, that it still possesses all those vital principles of godliness that actuated the first Dissenters, and is not a mere sounding brass or tinkling symbol; That the spirit of a Luther, a Latimer, a Ridley, a Wickliffe, a Wesley, a Roger Williams still exists among us; and thirdly, that there may be a more rapid increase of Educational interest among us.

*Resolved*, That the course pursued by Drs. Krebs, Hawks. Spring and Cox on last Thanksgiving Day, is Anti-Christian, Anti-Protestant, and highly dishonorable to the name of Christ, uniting themselves with the oppressor against the oppressed, with the strong against the weak, they have literally run with the multitude to do mischief, and deserve a rebuke from all lovers of justice and equity proportionate to their error.

*Resolved*, That we tender our sincere thanks to that portion of the Protestant Clergy, and especially a portion of the Clergy of the M. E Church, who have shown by their actions their abhorrence of injustice, their love of righteousness, and a moral courage worthy of the name they have espoused, and we shall ever remember them in our prayers, with the warmest expression of gratitude.

*Resolved*, That this conclusion is forced upon us that whatever Protestantism has done and may do for mankind, it has failed in this Country to extend to us the common sympathies and courtesies of a common Christian Brotherhood, and that all the advantages we derive in this world—advantages common to all men who profess the same religious belief and worship at the same shrine—compared with the evils we suffer as a consequence of the same religious belief or creed, we might as well be Jews or Mahomedans.

*Resolved*, That in view of the efforts now making to send the Free Colored People to Africa—to banish us as felons from our native land—we recommend to our people to regard all such persons as advise emigrating there or elsewhere as a body, as men deluded and whose judgement cannot be relied upon, and to express their determination, with God's help, not to leave the Country while our brothers and sisters, wives and children, fathers and mothers, are in bondage.

*Resolved*, That on the day we set apart for Prayer and Fasting, a collection be taken up in all our churches in aid of the Chaplin Fund, and the subscription be forwarded by a Committee of three gentlemen to Gerrit Smith, Esq. of Peterborough.

*Resolved*, That we adjourn to meet in this place on Monday morning next, at 10 o'clock.

J. C. GIBBS, Sec. pro tem.

## GREAT BRITAIN AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

AN official correspondence has recently taken place between her Majesty's consul at Charleston and his Majesty the Governor of South Carolina in person, and, through a correspondent of the *Evening Post*, has found its way into the newspapers. What the result may be we will not venture to predict, except that colored seamen, whether English, French, or Yankee, will still be sent to jail in Charleston on their arrival in that city. Great Britain may still press the subject of the imprisonment of her subjects upon the respective governments at Columbus and Washington, and when she finds that the first has not the will, and the last has not the power, to redress the wrong, she may dissolve all existing treaties between herself and the United States, if the spirit of trade will permit her to proceed to that extent; but further than that she cannot go. She cannot go to war with South Carolina, for a squadron sent out for any such purpose, would be compelled to make a return of *non est*. It takes two, as even school-boys know, to get up a fight. Great Britain could not declare war against a good-sized Manufactory or a small agricultural community, and South Carolina is not much more extensive than the one, or more wealthy than the other. Nor can she on this score fix a quarrel on the Federal Government, which declares that it cannot interfere with the local affairs of the States in cases which do not come within the scope of constitutional obligations and powers. Should Great Britain, however, as we hope she may, eventually declare the present commercial regulations established between the two Governments at an end, because of the violation of stipulations of treaties on the part of the United States, the Northern Union Committees, which now set so high a value on the political Union with the South, will fall to calculating the Commercial Union with some other powers.

But after all nothing may come of this correspondence, and South Carolina will continue to do as she pleases with the "niggers," without any interference, moral or political, on the part of those to whom colored citizens or colored subjects should not appeal in vain for protection. Mr Mathew, it will be seen, entreats the South Carolina potentate in most honeyed phrases, but this may be only offering the velvet of the lion's paw, beneath which the claws are none the less hidden and ready for all its smoothness. In the meantime Abolitionists abroad may be sure that they cannot serve the Cause in this country better than by pushing their Government to some decisive measures on this question, and especially one that shall act upon Trade. Such a course will bring Union Committees and pro-slavery Federal Governments and Slaveholders into quite new relations.

We copy below the Correspondence and the law of South Carolina referred to:

ENSLAVING OF FREE NEGROES.—PROTEST OF CONSUL MATHEW.

COLUMBIA, Dec 14, 1850.

The undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the States of North and South Carolina, has the honor to intimate to your Excellency, that he is instructed to invite the consideration of your Excellency, and of the Legislature of South Carolina now assembled, to the existing law of the State, under which a class of her Britannic Majesty's subjects, entering, *on the guarantee of a National treaty*, the ports of South Carolina, in trading vessels, or in "distress," are taken from the protection of the British flag, and imprisoned in the common jails until the moment of their ship's departure.

The *direct* mode, adopted by H. B. M.'s Government in this communication, will, the undersigned hopes, be accepted as a further proof of consideration and good will towards the State of South Carolina.

Aware of the constitutional change impending upon his arrival, he has purposely awaited your Excellency's official inauguration into office.

The State of South Carolina, the undersigned apprehends, has derived advantages of moment from the present liberal commercial intercourse with Great Britain, as it is evidently, *the price at which her staple commodities of rice and cotton can be sold, that limits their production and importation from various other countries*; nor will it escape the recollection of your Excellency and of the Legislature, that the punctilious adherence of the British Government to the unintended, but strict, application of the wording of the mutual treaty, enabled a talented Carolina gentlemen to obtain for the South, under it, a further benefit.

To the distinct clauses of that treaty, and to the declaration in the Constitution of the United States "that the Constitution and the Laws of the United States, which shall be made in pursuance thereof, *and all the treaties made, or which shall be made under the authority of the United States*, shall be the *supreme law of the land*," the undersigned begs to call your Excellency's attention, apprehending that its infraction by the act in question will appear indubitable.

The substitution of any more "*protective*" basis of commercial intercourse, for the present treaty, would, he feels persuaded, be at variance with the wishes of H. B. M.'s Government, but, it is just, and indispensable to its continuance, that a *perfect reciprocity in its advantages* should be admitted.

H. B. M.'s Government seek this reciprocity in the *unrestricted* trade of H. M.'s West Indian Colonies with all parts of the United States. These colonies mainly depend on their *imports* for corn, flour, cattle, salt provisions, and lumber, and, to their small, but numerous vessels (necessarily manned by mixed and chiefly colored crews,) the ports of North and South Carolina, respectively, are more especially suitable, and *at all seasons accessible*.

Your Excellency and the Legislature will, the undersigned cannot doubt, concur with him in the general international understanding of the *powers of Police, or Port regulations, co-existent with treaties*, namely,—that such permanent regulations should extend to foreigners the same restrictions they impose on natives, of the spot, where they are enforced, of a similar class and calling, *and no more*.

The undersigned indulges in the hope that, under these circumstances, the Legislature of South Carolina will see fit to abrogate or amend such portion of the law, as applies to the subjects of foreign allied powers and will thus strengthen the existing bonds of commerce, of friendship, and of mutual good faith, with a kindred nation.

[Signed] GEORGE B. MATHEW.

To His Excellency,
The Governor and Com-in-chief of
S. Carolina, &c., &c.

*Reply of Governor Means.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
COLUMBIA, S. C. Dec. 16, 1850

The undersigned, Governor of the Commonwealth of South Carolina, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, in relation to the law now existing, by which a class of H. B. M.'s subjects are imprisoned upon landing in Charleston, and the undersigned takes this occasion to assure H. B. M.'s Consul, of the friendly feeling entertained to his Government, by the State over which he has the honor to preside, and that no disposition exists to do anything that might tend to disturb the amicable relations now existing between the two Governments.

The law alluded to, the Legislature of South Carolina deemed necessary to enact, from considerations of safety to the institutions of the State, and not with a view of imposing any unnecessary restraint upon the seamen claiming the protection of the flag of any friendly power.

The communication of H. B. M.'s Consul, will be transmitted to the Legislature at the earliest possible convenience of the undersigned, and no doubt will meet with a respectful consideration

[Signed,] J. H. MEANS.

To H. B. M.'s Consul,
George B. Mathew, Esq

*Second Letter from Consul Mathew.*

COLUMBIA, Dec. 17, 1850.

The undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, for the States of North and South Carolina, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's "Note" of the 16th instant, conveying to him the gratifying assurance of the friendly feelings entertained to his Government by the State over which your Excellency presides, and intimating, also, your Excellency's intention to transmit the communication of the undersigned, at your Excellency's earliest convenience, to the Legislature of South Carolina.

The undersigned would merely desire, in continuance of his "note" of the 14th instant, to request the consideration of your Excellency, and of the Legislature, to the opinion of the late Attorney General Wirt, elaborately written, under the command of the Hon. J. Q. Adams, President of the United States, and printed in "Elliot's American Diplom Code," (Appendix, vol ii. p. 676,) concluding in the following forcible language:

"I am of opinion, that the section of the law under consideration is *void*, for being against the Constitution, treaties, and law of the United States, and incompatible with the rights of all nations, in amity with the United States."

This opinion, your Excellency will, the undersigned conceives, hold to be well founded on the *supreme* power of treaties, as ruled by *all* writers on international law, and briefly, but decisively laid down by Wheaton, in his "Elements of International Law," who states, (page 122, chap. 1, part 2,) under the head of the 'Rights of Self-Preservation and independence," of nations:

"The only exceptions to the applications of these general rules, arise out of *compact*, such as treaties, of alliance, guarantee, or mediation, to which the State itself, whose concerns are in question, has become a party."

The undersigned feels fully assured, that Her Majesty's Government may confidently rely on the justice and good faith of the Legislature of South Carolina, to arrest from the present moment, the operation of an act, which he apprehends will, on examination, be found liable (by the individual irritation it must cause,) to *create* the results it was designed to preclude.

[Signed,] GEORGE B. MATHEW.

His Excellency,
The Governor of the State of South Carolina.

*Reply of Governor Means.*

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
COLUMBIA, 19th December, 1850.

The undersigned, Governor over the Commonwealth of South Carolina, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the 17th, from H. B. M.'s Consul, and informs him that it will be transmitted to the Legislature forthwith.

The undersigned takes this occasion to renew his assurance of his own friendly feelings and those of the State over which he has the honor to preside, towards H. B. M.'s Government, and also his individual respect for H. B. M.'s Consul.

[Signed,] JOHN H. MEANS.

H. B. M.'s Consul,
George B. Mathew, Esq.

### COPY OF AN ACT,

Passed at Columbia, South Carolina, 19th December, 1850, Prohibiting Colored Persons from entering the State, and for other purposes.

An Act more effectually to prevent Free Negroes and other persons of color from entering into this State, and for other purposes.

I. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any free negro, or person of color, to migrate into this State, or be brought, or be introduced into its limits, under any pretext whatever, by land or by water, and in case any free negro, or person of color, (not being a seaman on board any vessel arriving in this State,) shall migrate into, or be introduced into this State, contrary to this Act, it shall, and may be lawful for any white person to seize and convey him or her, before any magistrate of the district or parish, where he or she may be taken; and it shall be the duty of the sheriff or constable in the parish or district in which said entry shall be made, and of the city marshals in the city of Charleston, should the entry be made in Charleston, upon information of the migration, or introduction of any such free negro or person of color, to arrest and bring before some magistrate of the district or parish, where the said free negro, or person of color, shall be taken, which magistrate is, by this Act, empowered to commit to prison, or at his discretion, to hold to bail such free negro, or person of color, and to summon three freeholders, and form a court, as the law directs, for the trial of persons of color, and examine such free negro or person of color, within six days after his or her arrest, and on conviction, to order him or her to leave the State, and to commit such free negro or person of color so convicted, to close prison, until such time as he or she can leave the State, or to release him or her, on sufficient bail for any time not exceeding fifteen days, at the discretion of the magistrate. And every free negro, or person of color, so bailed, and ordered to leave the State, within the time for which he or she shall have been released on bail, or who, having left the State after the conviction as aforesaid, shall return into the same, shall be arrested and committed to close prison as aforesaid, and upon proof before a court, to be constituted as this Act directs, of his or her having failed to leave the State as aforesaid, or of his or her having returned into the State after having left the State as aforesaid, he or she shall be subjected to such corporal punishment as the said court, in their discretion, shall think fit to order. And if after sentence or punishment, such free negro or person of color shall remain in the State longer than the time allowed, or having left the State shall thereafter return to the same, upon proof and conviction thereof before a court to be constituted as hereinbefore directed, he or she shall be sold at public sale as a slave, and the proceeds of such *sale shall be appropriated and applied one-half thereof to the use of the State, and the other half to the use of the informer.*

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall not be lawful for any free negro or person of color, to come into this State on board any vessel, as a cook, steward or mariner, or in any other employment on board such vessel; and in case any vessel shall arrive in any port or harbor of this State, from any other State or foreign port, having on board any free negro, or person of color, employed on board such vessel as a cook, steward, or mariner, or in any other employment, it shall be the duty of the sheriff of the district in which such port or harbor is situated, immediately on the

been in ports or places situated in Europe, in the West Indies or Mexico, or any port of South America, or in any State north of the Potomac or city of Washington, and, any person who shall bring into this State any slave contrary to the meaning of this act, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one thousand dollars for each such slave, to be recovered in an action for debt in any court having jurisdiction, and each and every such slave shall be forfeited, as hereinbefore provided in this act. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall prevent any owner from bringing into this State any runaway slave who may have been retaken.

THE CLUBS.—There is, it seems, for so a friend informs us, two clubs in this city, and that in speaking of the Union Club, a week or two ago, we confounded it with another called the Rackett. It is this latter, and not the Union, which has the Tailor's shop in the basement—a distinction which may guide anybody that may be looking for it. The other, the Union, less ambitious of a house of its own, or preferring to hire a whole house rather than let a half one, occupies a dwelling which it leases. Our friend to whom we are indebted for these particulars, also informs us that the purpose of the Union Club is to ensure its members the privilege of drinking brandy and water and smoking cigars undisturbed. He also assures us that the person who joined on the rejection of Mr. Jay is not a cotton broker, but actually purchases that staple on his own account, from which we infer that a mere broker is not eligible to brandy-smashers at the Union. He must be one, we suppose, who is able as well as willing to do what we heard, a 'New York merchant' declare not long since was the great mercantile principle of his life—speculate in anything, from a nigger to a steamship.

## Domestic Correspondence.

From Our Boston Correspondent.

NO. LXXIV.

THE ARGUMENT.—*Massachusetts Annual Meeting—Disappointment of Mr. Thompson's absence—Where it was not held—Faneuil Hall and the Mayor—A good discretion—Incidental Consolation—Where it was held—A degraded Playhouse—The Meeting in Milk Street—William Goodell—The Speakers—The Fleas—The Law of Lunacy—The Liberator Festival The place—The Good Time Come—Mr. Garrison's Speech — Mr. Thompson's — Presentation of the Watch—The other Speakers—General Satisfaction —The Free Soilers and Democrats—Curiosities of deglutition—The Correspondent commenteth, congratulateth and prophecieth — Faith and Mountains—Governor Boutwell and the Correspondent's opinion of him, &c. &c.*

BOSTON, Jan. 28th, 1850.

You will have the proceedings of our Annual Meeting, I suppose, in time for this week's paper, so I need not go into any details of them. It was, on the whole, a successful one, although the absence of Mr. Thompson threw a damp over the spirits of those in attendance. Very many who had never had the privilege to see his face or to hear his voice, had come up to our Anniversary in the full and well-grounded expectation that their heart's desire would be gratified. But a severe seizure at Hingham, where he had been lecturing, caused probably by over exertion at Laurence and the other Anti-Slavery meetings he had attended lately, confined him to his bed during the days that we had hoped to have had him on our platform. The disappointment, though unavoidable and irremediable, was necessarily a severe one, and could not but have had its effect on the character of the meeting, However, we had good speaking enough to set up half a dozen political or religious assemblies, and good sense and sound doctrine enough for a hundred.

We were unfortunate in our place of meeting, Faneuil Hall being denied to us because Mayor Bigelow and the worshipful Aldermen were afraid that Mr. Thompson's presence might be distastefui to their allies, the patriotic shop boys of Milk Street and Kilby Street. The Mayor having acknowledged the incompetency of the City Authorities to cope with this new Power in the State, it was perhaps wise in him to bow before the possible storm, and thereby avoid cutting a more ridiculous figure than was absolutely necessary, under the inexorable necessities of his case. But we had this advantage in holding our meetings in our own hired halls, that, being unincumbered by the help of the Mayor and the City Marshal, we had a quiet time, unusually free from any disturbance from without And had we had as much as disgraced our Municipal Fathers on the Fifteenth of November, we should have been able to put it down, always provided that they had not given it the light of their extraordinary countenances.

The Melodeon, too, was occupied by the Seven Mile Mirror, or some interminable roll of panoramic canvass or other, so that we were reduced to the Tremont Temple This was once a very good Theatre, but, since it has been degraded into a Baptist Chapel, for the preaching of the Rev. Mr. Colver, it seems as if some spell hung over it and damaged all genuine Anti-Slavery gatherings held in it.

"Something ails it now, the place is curst!" But we couldn't help ourselves, and we made the best of it. The first evening we were driven by the Mercantile Library Lecture to hold our session in the hall in Milk Street, where Mr. Hines used to (and perhaps still does) hold his Second Advent Meetings. It was rather high up in the air (possibly for the greater convenience of *going up*); but was a light and pleasant place enough when we got there. The speaking was uncommonly good, on the whole, and we had the pleasure of welcoming again to New England, after many years interval, Mr. Goodell, of your State, who was very warmly received, and listened to with much respect and attention.

All our meetings were very fully attended. The evening of Thursday and Friday afternoon were particularly full. Messrs. Phillips, Burleigh, Garrison, Quincy, Theodore Parker, &c. were the principal speakers. It cannot be denied that we had more than our usual allowance of *boring*, but that is a dispensation in regard to which we have learned to possess our souls in patience. "*The fleas of Conventions*," as Mr. Emerson calls them, are insects, however troublesome, which inevitably infest, to a greater or less degree, the atmosphere of Free Speech. Vanity, Folly and Lunacy will sometimes break bounds in the only place where they would be tolerated for a moment. But it is better so than to be under the iron rule of Doctors of Divinity and Doctors of Law. As to the matter of lunacy, we have settled that question, and do not intend that persons of nonsane memory shall be considered free to speak in our meetings. This is now so well understood, that the unfortunate person who has given us so much trouble in times past, though present, was quiet in the main, and was only excited to a partial disturbance, just before adjourning, by the malicious instigation of a vain and ill-disposed woman, who was not contented with an ample opportunity to make herself odious and ridiculous on the platform, aided by a disorderly man in the gallery. As the meeting was on the point of adjournment when this disturbance was thus created, it was not thought necessary to remove the unhappy lunatic in question, which would, of course, have been done at any earlier stage of the proceedings.

The great feature of this Anniversary, however, was the Festival in celebration of the completion of the Twentieth year of The Liberator. The suggestion came from Mr. Thompson, and was warmly received by all the Abolitionists in this quarter. It was held on Friday evening, in Cochituate Hall, as you have advertised it. All we wanted was a larger place, which could have accommodated all that would have gladly taken part in it. It was the best place that could be procured, and was as good as could be desired in every respect, except size. About three hundred and fifty tickets were sold, and great numbers, perhaps as many again, turned away empty. The room is a very handsome one, being the hall of the Shakspeare Division of the Sons of Temperance, and the scene, with the well-filled tables surrounded by cheerful guests, was very animated and lively. The entertainment was abundant and elegant, and did much credit to Mr. SMITH, the caterer who refused to be bottle-holder to the Godlike at Marshfield, when he entertained the poor Turkish Captain whom he had erected into an Ambassador, as I have formerly recorded in these veracious chronicles. Your Senior Corresponding Editor was called to the Chair. My peculiar personal and official relations with that gentleman render it improper for me to express any opinion as to the manner in which he discharged its duties. It is enough to say that, so resolute was the determination of all present to have a good time, that it would not have been in the power of any President to disappoint it. All seemed resolved that the "Good Time" was not merely *coming*, but that it had actually *come*, for that evening at least. On Mr. Garrison being called on, he gave a very interesting acount of the early days of The Liberator, of the hardships and difficulties of its day of small things. He was received with the most tumultuous and enthusiastic cheering, which was repeated at every telling point of his speech. Mr. Thompson was also received with great enthusiasm, and related his first acquaintance with Mr. Garrison and The Liberator, and paid a just tribute to the character and influence on American history, of our guest. At the close of his Speech, he presented to Mr. Garrison a gold watch and chain, which had been purchased, as a slight memorial of the day, during the Annual Meeting, by an eager contribution. It is one of Adams' best manufacture, and as substantially elegant a one as could be procured. An appropriate inscription was engraved on the inside of the lid. Mr. Thompson's manner and address were singularly appropriate, as were those of Mr. Garrison in receiving and acknowledging the gift.

Speeches were made or sentiments given, in the course of the evening, by Mr. Wendell Phillips, Hon. Henry Wilson, President of the Senate, John Earle, of the House, Rev. Messrs. Theodore Purker, Sargent, Edwin Thompson, and others. Apyropriate songs interspersed the festivities, which were kept up till half past twelve, with unabated spirit; and even then. the great body of the party seemed unwilling to separate. A brief speech of much pith and solemnity from Mr. Thompson concluded the session, and all departed, apparently, "shut up in measureless content." The next morning, and the calm reflection which usually comes with it. after merry-makings in general, seemed to make no difference in the feelings with which the festival was regarded by those that united in it They all seemed firmly of opinion that they had had an excellent good time, and that there was nothing wanting to to mar it, except the inexorable space which excluded so many who would have delighted in making one of the party. We will hope, shovld there ever be another Anti-Slavery Soiree, or any future fit occasion, that this defect may be remedied. At this time, every effort was made to obtain a larger room, to which no greater objection attached, but it was found impracticable. It was an Ambrosial Night which will be long remembered with pleasure by those who enjoyed its satisfactions.

You have recorded the ill success of the Coalition in this State between the Free Soilers and the Democrats. The lion's share of the State offices, the Governor' Lieutenant Governor, Speaker, six out of nine counsellors, and the short Senatorial term, &c., were accorded to the Democrats as the equivalent for the Senatorship for the long term. Those patriotic gentlemen showed no disinclination to swallow all they could get, but, after they had gorged themselves like so many Anacondas, their constitutional scruples could not permit them to let the Free Soilers have their share of the spoils. They could not away with it! Their gorge rose at it! They could not consent to endanger this glorious Union, and the more Glorious Democratic party, by sending Charles Sumner to the Senate! One would think that they should have thought of these things before they took the consideration. But then I don't pretend to be posted up in political matters. It may be according to Gunter, for all I know. Only I am glad that I happen to have nothing to do with such delicate transactions. The Free Soilers, some of them, are still sanguine that the Democrats will yet come round in some shape, so as to secure Mr. Sumner's election. I think myself that, though their faith is great, there are mountains which it may not be able to remove. And among these mountains are the dimly discerned summits of Postmasterships and Inspectorships looming up in the dim distance of a Cass Administration. Far be it from *me* to impute any improper motives to impeccable legislators; but this is what the wicked insinuate on the subject. The Free Soilers have at least done one thing. They have given Massachusetts a trifle the meanest, two-facedest, Governor she has ever had. He seems to be neither fish, flesh nor good red-herring. But I must leave him or lose the mail.

D. V.

## Communications.

### THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW.

AT a meeting of the citizens of Peru, N. Y, the following Preamble and Resolutions, after protracted discussion were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, We believe the late Act of Congress denominated the 'Fugitive Slave Bill' to be at variance with the promptings of our common humanity. Contrary to the Declaration of Independence—a violation of the privileges secured to the citizens of the several States—an attempt to nullify the right of Trial by Jury—opposed to the positive prohibition of Mount Sinia, and forbids the observance of the plainest Christian Precepts:

And whereas, One of its most odious features is the proffered bribe of a *Double Fee* to the officer who shall grant the claims of the slave-master:

And whereas, It endangers the rights of the Freeman as well as the Fugitive from bondage—is justly alarming to the whole colored population—an inroad upon the freedom and security of all men, and a standing disgrace to our country in the eyes of the world, the effects of which is evil and only evil continually:

Therefore, Resolved, 1st. Those who fear God rather than man, and are under obligations to obey the Divine Law rather than the human, we feel bound to refuse obedience to the inhuman requisition of said Law.

2d, Resolved, That as Christian citizens, and peaceable subjects we are most strongly bound to discountenance all forcible opposition to the Law, or armed resistance to its execution.

3d. Resolved, That as lovers of equal rights and patrons of the weal, we should labor assidously by all means to secure the repeal of so odious and digraceful a statute.

4th. Resolved, As the best means of effecting this, we recommend that the following Petition be numerously signed and presented to Congress at its present session:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

The undersigned citizens of Peru and vicinity believing that the Fugitive Slave Law conflicts with the duty which we owe to our fellow men—that of doing to others as we would have them do to us, most respectfully pray your honorable body to repeal said Law.

5th. Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the *Keeseville Republican* and *National Anti-Slavery Standard*, with request that they, and such other papers as are disposed, publish them.

A committee having been appointed to circulate the above Petition, the meeting adjourned.

JOHN H. BARKER, Chairman.
JAS. REYNOLDS, Secretary.

## New-York Assembly.

### DEBATE ON THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

On the 23d instant, MR. THOMPSON, a member from this city, called up his Compromise Resolutions which are as follows:

*Resolved*, (if the Senate concur), That we revere the wisdom and patriotism of our ancestors, which framed the Union of the States under the Federal Constitution; that we attribute our power, dignity, and prosperity as a nation, the full possession and enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, the security of property and the means of moral and intellectual elevation which are the birthright of every citizen, and all the magnificent results of our growth as a people, to the Union under the Constitution; that the maintenance and extension of these great blessings during the present generation, and their transmission to posterity, are secure only by a faithful adherence to the Union, and implicit obedience to the Constitution.

2. *Resolved*, (if the Senate concur), That the fabric of our General Government was the product of reciprocal concession among the conflicting interests of different sections of the country, of mutual respect for the diversities of opinion which prevailed among the citizens, and of sincere affection, begotten by their common origin, and the common perils, toils and sacrifices through which their common liberties had been won; and that the General Government can be sustained and perpetuated only upon the same basis of concession, respect and affection.

3. *Resolved*, (if the Senate concur), That we cordially approve of the recent measures of Congress for the adjustment of the dangerous questions arising out of the acquisition of territory under the treaty with Mexico, and that in consideration of the various and discordant interests to be affected thereby, we hold that the Compromise is a fair one, and ought to be sustained by every patriot i every part of the land.

4. *Resolved*, (if the Senate concur), That the Fugitive Slave Bill is in accordance with the express stipulations of the Constitution of the United States, as carried out by the Act of Congress, of 1799, signed by Washington, and in force at the time when the present law was passed; and that Congress, in passing a law which should be efficient in carrying out the stipulations of the Constitution, acted in full accordance with the letter and spirit of that instrument, and that we will sustain this law, and the execution of the same by all lawful means.

5. *Resolved*, (if the Senate concur), That the further agitation of the Slave Question would, in the opinion of the People of this State, be dangerous to the existence of the Union.

6. *Resolved*, (if the Senate concur), That the Executive be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State.

MR. J. BENEDICT moved their reference to the judiciary committee.

MR. A. A. THOMPSON opposed this motion. This subject looked to the preservation of the Union. Why, then, should they be sent to a sleep which knows no waking. It was designed, this motion, to subserve the mere ends of party. If the judiciary committee is to be made a sort of Hader, and if the gentleman from Oneida is the St. Peter entrusted with the keys, he would like to know it. He (Mr. T.) deemed this a mere attempt of the majority, with which the gentleman acts, to smother this subject. The house did not need the investigation of a committee to tell us that the Union was sacred—that the constitution was formed under a spirit of compromise, and that it can only be preserved by such a spirit. The object, he charged in distinct terms, was to stifle debate. Are the majority of this House the mere slaves of party? Are they prepared rather to barry out the wishes of that party than to act for the preservation of the Union? This desire to stave off a vote is, lest a vote now should interfere with the election of a United States Senator. They succumb to the dictation of men rather than to the impulses of patriotism.

Mr. T. referred to the bill introduced by Mr. Coffin, as a bill pregnant with evil—as a bill directly calculated to destroy that spirit of good feeling without which the Union could not exist. That bill, if passed, will place the State of New York in hostility to the general government. It will raise the question whether New York or the general government is the strongest—whether patriotism or faction is to rule. If this bill should pass, the next thing would be to raise a standing army to repel the general government. It will facilitate the issue whether rebellion is to be tolerated—whether New York may make war upon the glorious Union.

Then would follow, probably, a bill to make war upon the Governor and other authorities of the State. Next, a bill to legalize that miserable, drivelling faction in this State, known as Anti-renters. Indeed, if this bill should pass, he did not know where such legislation would end.

The gentleman who had moved the reference of these resolutions could not be so ignorant as not to know sufficient of the issues involved in this question, to vote now upon them. He should endeavor to compel gentlemen to show their ends—to reveal who are the panders to party and who are patriots, ready to stand by the Union. If his ingenuity was sufficient, he would, to-day, endeavor to compel gentlemen to show their hands. Those who are willing to stand by the Union must stand by the Compromise measures. He regretted that any man felt called upon to trample upon his conscience and convictions. He wished to see men rise above party upon this great question.

MR. J. BENEDICT came here as one of the representatives of the people, to discharge whatever duties were assigned him; and every motion I shall make shall be done in good faith. Whatever came before him should be carefully reviewed. He did not deem this the time to discuss this question. He had a fixed position on these questions; but he did not deem this the time to express it.

MR. ANTHON would have warned the gentleman from New York, if he had not himself taken the alarm, against submitting anything on this subject to the judiciary committee. Over their door is written, "They loose all hope who enter here."

Mr. A. proceeded to argue that there was nothing in these resolutions which called for their reference to the judiciary committee. He believed the House was as well prepared to vote to-day as hereafter. He wished to have this question decided before he was called upon to vote for a United States Senator. He wished to learn his duty—to determine how to vote upon that occasion. He felt that his path was full of pit-falls He desired to clear away the rubbish; and as a preliminary to this, he desired to secure a vote upon his own resolutions—resolutions which, as a member of the Whig party, he had so drawn as to give no just offence to any man. He did not wish these resolutions to be sent to that bourne from whence no traveller returns. It may be that the committee is overburdened with business. If so, let them ask to be discharged. Let them say, boldly, that they have not the time to do the subject justice, and let them be sent to a select committee who could take them up.

Although his own resolutions had gone to the judiciary committee, he trusted that these resolutions would not be similarly disposed of. He believed a majority of the House and a majority of the people would prefer to have them go elsewhere. The impression is general that the object is to smother these resolutions. They may have a resurrection—they may be galvanized into life—drawn out from their living tomb; but he wished speedier action than we were likely to receive at the hands of the committee.

MR. TOWNSEND would have said nothing if he did not suppose that the judiciary committee had been improperly referred to. As one of that committee, he should zealously endeavor to secure action upon all subjects referred to that committee. He expressed the opinion, however, that it would be proper to refer all resolutions of a kindred character to one committee. No gentleman need fear that the committee would not give all subjects due consideration. The committee will take up this subject and report in due time.

MR. VARNUM would express no opinion in regard to the policy of these resolutions. But the subject is before us. First came the "coffin bill," which if passed would be a coffin to the Union. Next came a Richmond into the field; then the gentleman from New York. The gentleman from Cayuga followed—representing a county which gave his resolutions great significance. The other day, he was in favor of a select committee; now, if the committee would give some assurance that they would report at an early day, he would not vote against this motion.

But he wished action. He was opposed to procrastination. Whether it was proper to bring up this subject at all, it was not now for him to say. But as the subject is up, he was for meeting it promptly. Why not meet it now? He did not believe there would be any difficulty on this matter. He believed a majority of the House were true friends of the Union; men who were prepared to maintain the Union as it was established, by compromise and concession. Not only did he believe that the Whigs of this House would act patriotically, but that the representatives of the Democratic party would imitate their good example.

While, therefore, he did not wish to force the committee to report to-day, he would say that if there was to be much longer delay, he would go with those who should press prompt action.

MR. LE ROY thought if the Union was very sick, it should have watchers. If, however, speedy action was sought to ascertain whether the next U. S. Senator was to be Fish or fowl, he was ready to vote to-day.

MR. WARD did not deem it so very important to press action upon these resolutions. The gentleman himself, no doubt, felt the solicitude of a parent for his child. He sympathized with the general sentiments of the resolutions; but he doubted the wisdom of agitating the subject at this time. Whether they were passed or not, he believed both the Union and the Constitution would survive.

MR. A. A. THOMPSON moved that the committee be instructed to report to-morrow morning at twelve o'clock.

MR. GRAHAM moved, "at their earliest convenience."

MR. BURROUGHS expressed himself surprised at the apparent apathy of the House upon this subject. Last year, on the second day of the session, three sets of resolutions were brought in, but they were of a very different stripe from these. Then, he moved the reference to a select committee. For this he was charged with a desire to smother debate. He protested against this charge. But now, the same class of men, when charged with a similar desire, do not deny it. They are told that there are men here not prepared to vote for a U. S. Senator until action was had upon these resolutions. As an excuse for delay, the gentleman from New York (Mr. Townsend) says others may be sent to him. A young lady once expressed the same hope, but she waited in vain. How large a family does the gentleman want? He has three sets of resolutions before him already. Why delay a report, then? Is he afraid that a wrong set of resolutions will be passed? Why, that gentleman's friends are in such a majority here that they can do what they please.

It is said that one candidate for U. S. Senator is called Fish. Before I shall be called to vote for that officer, I want to see the platform upon which he is to be elected. Do gentlemen wish to see doubtful men sent to that body. I hope to see no cowardly retreat on any question.

He knew that there were men here who would be absent to-morrow, and would not return until after a Senator shall be chosen. He called upon such men to vote now so as to leave understandingly. He hoped the question would not be delayed another hour. If his views were the views of the majority of the House, they will exhume these resolutions now, and go to a direct vote upon them.

MR. GRAHAM withdrew his motion. He had confidence in the committee.

MR. TOWNSEND remarked that he supposed the gentleman from Orleans would say something, but he did not expect it just yet. He had said he would give the committee two weeks. This time was not yet elapsed, and hence his surprise at the speech he had just made. Mr. T. was anxious to have that gentleman's views in the form of a resolution To be sure, those views might be slightly different from what they were but he still wished to hear from him. Mr. T. also added that the committee would not seek to smother these resolutions. This he wished to avow; and the action of the committee would justify this declaration.

MR. BURROUGHS might ask why the gentleman charged him with a change of views. He had given no evidence of such change. In due time he (Mr. B.) would see whether he (Mr. T.) stood in the same boots which he brought with him last year.

The motion was further debated, by various gentlemen.

The motion upon which a vote was taken, was, to refer the resolutions, with instructions to report on Tuesday next.

This resolution was lost 55 to 60, as follows:—

AYES—Messrs. H. J. Allen, O. Allen, Anthon, Atwood, R. Babcock, Backhouse, Barnes, Bird, Blackstone, Bowne, Burroughs, Bushnell, Cady, Campbell, G. Clark, J. F. Clark, Colvin, Cooke, Congdon, Davis, Dennison, Doyle, Elderkin, Ferris, Fitzhugh, French, W. S. Gregory, Greene, Hatch, Higby, Jayne, Kinsley, Lawyer, Lewis, Lyon, Maurice, Minier, E. Perry, Rider, Robinson, Rockwell, W. Russell, W. F Russell, Ryan, Sickles, E. T. Smith, Snell, Stewart, Stilwell, Stratton, Swords, A. A. Thompson, O. C. Thompson, Varnum, Wright—55

NAYS—Messrs. J. W. Babcock, Baker, Belknap, J. Benedict, T. H. Benedict, Bishop, Bottum, Bradley, Brayton, Briggs, Carrington, Chamberlain, Coffin, Corser, Douglass, Ellwood, Ely, Farr, Feller, Fisk, Gilbert, Gleason, Graham, A. A. Gregory, H. Harris, L. Harris, Heath, Hewit, Hinds, Hoppin, Ingersoll, Kellogg, Lake, Lesley, McLouth, Macomber, Miles, Moss, Nelson, J. L. Perry, Pool, Rouse, Rowe, Rumsey, Severance, Shall, Shultes, A. Smith, Southwick, Stevens, Speaker, Townsend, Tuthill, Underwood, Wakeman, Ward, Welden, Wheeler, Whiteside, Yeomans—60.

The resolutions were then referred.

## Congressional.

U. S. SENATE..WASHINGTON, Jan 22.

MR. SEWARD presented two petitions for repeal of Fugitive Slave law, and moved their reference—motion laid on the table.

MR. YULEE, from the Naval Committee, reported back the joint resolution allowing Naval Surgeons, while doing land service, the same rations as army surgeons, and it was ordered to be engrossed.

MR. CLAY's resolution, directing inquiry into more effectual measures to suppress the African slave trade, by preventing American vessels and seamen engaging in the trade, and to refuse sea letters to American vessels trading from Brazilian ports to the western Coast of Africa, was taken up. Mr. Hale said that in a morning paper, (the Republic) is the following article:

"To gratify public curiosity in regard to the character of the paper which is understood is being signed by many members of Congress, we have procured a copy for publication in our paper of to day—

"The undersigned, members of the 31st Congress of the United States, believing a renewal of sectional controversy upon the subject of Slavery would be both dangerous to the Union, and destructive of its objects, and seeing no mode by which such controversy can be avoided, except by a strict adherence to the settlement thereof effected by the compromise acts passed at the last session of Congress, do hereby declare their intention to maintain said settlement inviolate, and to resist all attempts to repeal or alter the acts aforesaid, unless by the general consent of the friends of the measures, and to remedy such evils, if any, as time and experience may develope, and for the purpose of making this resolution effective, they further declare, that they will not support for President or Vice President, or Senator or Sepresentative in Congress, or as a member of a State Legislature, any man, of whatever party, who is not known to be opposed to the disturbance of the settlement aforesaid, and to the renewal in any form of the agitation upon the subject of Slavery.

MR. HALE said he did not know but those who vote for the resolution may come within the ostracism of this document, which is published to gratify public curiosity, though he thought public curiosity would not be satisfied until the names of the signers were also published He would like to know how this subject was to be discussed without treading on grounds forbidden by this publication. How was a trade to be discussed when the article of trade was not to be mentioned or alluded to? How could the slave trade be discussed without alluding to Slavery? And if Slavery be discussed will not agitation be renewed, and all taking part in it be liable to the ostracism of the document? He had little fear of any such thing, however, and would say what he desired on the subject. He read from a letter of James Hamilton of South Carolina, in 1850, to Mr. Clarkson of England, upon the subject of the slave trade, in which measures adopted to suppress slave trade through efforts of Abolitionists and others were showed to have been most injurious. In 1787, the annual number of slaves imported from Africa did not exceed 45,000, and the mortality during the passage was not over nine per cent. In 1840, the number annually imported was 150,000, and the mortality in the middle passage was twenty-five to thirty per cent. Mr. Hamilton further argues that if measures to prevent the trade be withdrawn, and the trade be allowed to continue in vessels affording comfort to slaves, then humanity would not be shocked by this great mortality. The slave would then be brought from slavery and darkness at home, and given a knowledge of humanity. He also argues that Slavery is an institution ordained by God, from the time of Moses, and sanctioned by Christ and his Apostles. If to bring savages from darkness and to place them in the God-ordained and Christ sanctioned institution was so horrible and impious as to excite the great outbreak of philanthropy, he could not see it. Now, instead of mourning over the defeat of freedom and surrender of everything at the last session to Slavery, there is excitement about foreign trade. He had no respect for such philanthropy which permitted the battle to be lost at home, and then turn all efforts against the foreign trade, which everybody can safely denounce. He thought that Colonization was no effectual remedy against the slave trade, and that so long as there was a market, or a spot where slaves were bought and sold, so long would the trade continue. If colonization were to prevail here, he desired to know whether it was Northern or Southern Colonization. He had seen colonization agents at the North—pious men, who declared it was the only effective mode of ridding the country of Slavery, and he had seen the Southern tale of the same agents, and that it was the only means to protect the South against the nuisance of Free Negro Population.

MR. CLAY asked for the reading of the resolution. It was read. Mr. Clay said the reading of the resolution was the best answer to the speech just made. The resolution was one of inquiry merely, and was founded on information communicated to the Senate in public documents, called for by that body, on the subject of the slave trade in American vessels between Brazil and Africa. This had been a subject of various communications from American ministers, Messrs. Wise, Todd, and others.

MR. CLAY then detailed the mode by which American vessels and seamen were under the protection of the American flag—the only one which could protect them from the right of search, and were successfully taken to the coast of Africa for cargoes of slaves. All our agents in Brazil were right in saying that our vessels have no other trade with Africa, and recommend that they be denied sea letters giving to them the protection of the American flag. This resolution did not afford opportunity to renew agitation of Slavery. There is a wide distinction between domestic Slavery and the foreign slave trade. No one more than Mr. Hale knew that agitation was always confined to domestic Slavery, and that the resolution wholly relates to the foreign trade, of which no diversity of opinion exists.

As to the publication in a morning paper, he saw no connection between it and this resolution. He openly avowed himself as one of the signers of that paper, and his intention to adhere to its terms, so far as he was called upon to do so.

MR. FOOTE said he was somewhat implicated in the publication alluded to by Mr. Hale. The purport of that publication was that signers of all parties united to put down agitation of all subjects tending to renew discords and sectional strife, and all subjects having the effect to destroy the fraternal relations, concord and union of all portions of the country. It was supposed that there were some persons in some sections who aspired to the Presidency, and other high offices, and desired to reach those positions by keeping agitation alive. This was merely to warn such persons, if any did exist, that old party ties would not be adhered to; but so far as the influence and efforts of those who signed that paper could be exerted, such persons could not succeed even to the smallest office.

The CHAIR said this debate was out of ...

MR. FOOTE said Mr. Hale was allowed to read the paper. The Chair said the paper was read, but the Chair could not say it was out of order till it was read and applied. Mr. Foote said the Chair had read the paper several times in print, and even in manuscript before to-day. He would not have said a word concerning it had the Chair (Mr. King of Alabama) not been one of its earliest signers. The article contained his sentiments. Such an association of distinguished men, in his opinion, could put down agitation, and he believed they had exercised an influence already upon some, through a fear of loss of official advancement. He read extracts from a circular of George Wood and others of New York, and was not ashamed to say he was in alliance with that movement. He was sorry that Mr. Hale had denounced them—they merely said if any one desired agitation they would not support him. "We and our house shall serve the Lord."

MR. HALE was about to reply, and to allude to certain meetings in the basement of the Capital, when he was stopped by the Chair.

MR. DAYTON asked for the ayes and nays on the resolutions ordered. Mr. Foote would vote for the resolution as one of inquiry.

JOHN DAVIS was in favor of the inquiry. Jefferson Davis opposed the resolution. We had nothing to do with the trade carried on by Brazil. Mr. Berrien thought it unimportant, but would vote for the resolution.

MR. HALE offered an ammendment directing further inquiry into the practical operations of laws to suppress the slave trade. He said that the statement of Mr. Hamilton, which he had read, did not express his own convictions.

MR. BUTLER of South Carolina was opposed to the slave trade, but would vote against any bill refusing sea letters to vessels going out of Brazil.

MR. HAMILTON opposed Mr. Hale's amendment.—Mr. Hale replied, and asked the yeas and nays on his amendment—rejected. The resolution was agreed to, yeas 45, nays 0. Nays—Messrs. Benton, Borland, Butler, Jefferson Davis, Rhett, Soule, Turney, Yulee.

The French Spoilation bill was taken up. Mr. Smith moved to strike out the 11th section of the bill, containing appropriations for expenses of Board of Commissioners. This was to avoid the necessity for referring the bill to the Committee of the Whole in the House. After a long debate, the motion was agreed to —yeas 27, nays25.

MR. RUSK moved to amend by inserting, "and no payment under this act shall be made to any assignees or insurers." Messrs. Walker, Butler and Rusk advocated the amendment. Messrs. Clay, Berrien Smith, and Bradbury opposed the amendments which was rejected—yeas 25, nays 30. The bill was then reported to the Senate. Mr. Borland moved adjournment—lost 24 to 25. Mr. Foote asked time to consider bill. Adjourned.

### MARRIAGES.

KING—SEAVER.—At Washington; D. C., Hon. George G. King, member of the House of Representatives from Rhode Island, to Miss Elizabeth Seaver.

MIRICK — EVERETT. — In Everettville (Princeton, Mass.), January 1st, by Rev. Elnathan Davis, Mr. Moses H. Mirick to Miss Sarah M., daughter of Mr. J. T. Everett.

### DEATHS.

GARDINER. — In this city, on Tuesday evening, the 21st inst., after a few days illness, Alexander Gardiner, Esq., Clerk of the United States Circuit Court, aged 34 years.

COLTON.—In Philadelphia, on Wednesday afternoon, 22d inst., Rev. Walter Colton, U. S. Navy.

KING.—In Providence, 21st inst., Samuel Ward King, formerly Governor of Rhode Island, 66

HALL.—In Upton, Mass., on the 18th of December, of consumption, Mrs. Sarah D. Hall, aged 34 years.


## Great Union Anti-Slavery Fair!

GEORGE THOMPSON AND WENDELL PHILLIPS IN BLACKSTONE!

☞ The friends of freedom in Blackstone, Uxbridge, Woonsocket and vicinity will hold a Fair, in aid of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, in the spacious new hall in the Blackstone Block, in Blackstone, on Wednesday and Thursday, afternoon and evening, Jan. 29 and 30. Articles sent over to the Faneuil Hall Bazaar, by friends of the cause in England, Ireland and Scotland, will be offered for sale, which, in quantity, variety and richness, will exceed any thing of the kind ever offered in this vicinity.

George Thompson, Esq., M. P., of London, and Wendell Phillips, Esq., of Boston, have promised to be present.

A good band of music is secured for the occasion.

Donations of refreshments or money are earnestly solicited, and may be sent to the Hall during the Fair, or left with either of the undersigned Committee of Arrangements.

Friends of Freedom! Let the rich display of articles, the soul-stirring music, and the united eloquence of Old and New England, pleading for the dumb, imbruted slave, bring together the largest meeting ever held in the valley of the Blackstone!

| | |
|---|---|
| Olive Darling, | Blackstone |
| Maria P. Fairbanks, | " |
| Louisa P. Buffum, | " |
| Louisa G. Thayer, | " |
| Nancy B. Hill, | " |
| Harriet Lapham, | " |
| Eliza Shove, | " |
| Mrs. T. Dermot, | " |
| Mrs. J. F. Comstock, | " |
| Mrs. D. Crossman, | " |
| Eliza Thayer, | " |
| Julia Southwick, | " |
| Catharine Johnson, | " |
| Julia Paine, | " |
| Mrs. D. S. Thayer, | " |
| Harriet Hale, | " |
| Laurie Foster, | Uxbridge. |
| Martha Stowe, | " |
| Martha Gale, | Woonsocket. |
| Caroline R. Gale, | " |
| Mary Ann Johnson, | " |
| Sarah Benson, | " |
| Maria L. Southwick, | Mendon. |
| Joanna K. Ballou, | Cumberland. |
| Catherine Aldrich, | Smithfield. |

## THE NEXT PEACE CONGRESS.

*To the Friends of Peace in the United States.*

IT is well known to the people of this country, that there have been held, within the last seven or eight years, four General Peace Congresses in the Old World—the first at London in 1843, the next at Brussels in 1848, the third at Paris in 1849, and the fourth at Frankfort in Germany last summer; each attended by a large number of delegates from different and distant parts of Christendom, and many of them distinguished not only for their talents, learning and philanthropy, but for their high standing and influence in Society, Church and State; men speaking various languages, living under almost every form of government, and professing a wide diversity of political and religious views, yet all drawn together by their attachment to the cause of peace as an object of common and absorbing interest to the whole human race.

These Congresses have served, as they were designed, to promote fraternal intercourse, and strengthen the bonds of amity, between the people of different countries; to bring the friends of peace in particular into fuller acquaintance with each other in their great work; to devise and agree upon the best means of accomplishing their object, permanent peace among all nations; to present and keep this object more prominently before the world, as a grand desideratum of the age; and especially to fix the attention both of people and of rulers on the duty, importance and feasibility of gradually abating the enormous evils of the present war-system, and finally superseding its alleged necessity, by the adoption of rational, peaceful, Christian substitutes, far more efficacious than the sword for all purposes of international justice, security and peace.

The next of these world-congresses is to be held at London, probably about the middle of the coming July, in connexion with the World's Industrial Exhibition, that grand development of the new and better spirit which has begun to pervade the nations; a demonstration that would have been impossible fifty or even twenty years ago; itself a decisive proof of the progress already made in our cause, one of the fruits of the general peace enjoyed in Europe for some third of a century, and likely to become an important auxiliary [illegible] must of course be an occasion of great interest to all persons of enlarged, philanthropic views, and will doubtless draw together vast multitudes from every continent and well nigh every country on the globe.

Such an opportunity for the cause of peace has never ocurred in the whole history of our race; and, desirous of turning it to the best account, the American Peace Society, in concert with their co-workers in this country and in Europe, would request the friends of peace throughout the U. States to aid us in procuring from their respective localities suitable delegates to the proposed Peace Congress in London next July. We address them thus early in order to give ample time for preparation. We should of course prefer the most devoted, thoroughgoing friends of our cause, more especially judicious, Christian men; but there will be required in delegates only an intelligent, cordial, active interest in the promotion of internal peace; and any person of good general character, disposed to co-operate in efforts for the abolition of war as a custom repugnant to Christianity, and hostile to the best interests of mankind will be welcomed to membership in the Congress. We would invite not only Peace Societies but all other philanthropic associations, the friends of peace in any city or town, seminaries of learning, and all scientific and literary societies, local churches, and ecclesiastical bodies of every denomination, to send one or more delegates. Unable ourselves to canvass the country for the purpose, we would request our friends, in every part of the land, to inform us, at their earliest convenience, of any suitable persons in their vicinity who may be inclined or might be induced, to atteud as delegates. The persons selected by any of the bodies we have designated, can receive if they choose, a commission from our Society; and we request all, in any event, the communication of their names to us, or to the American Peace Congress Committee, as early, if possible, as the first of June, and as much sooner as may be convenient.

The World's Industrial Exhibition is to be opened in the Spring; but, as the fee for admission will for a time be excessively high, and as all minds will be for weeks, perhaps for months, too much engrossed with that unique and magnificent demonstration to allow meanwhile a proper degree of interest in an object like ours, the Peace Congress is to be fixed at a day likely to secure the best attendance, and the largest share of public attention. We shall in due time inform our friends of the precise day of the Congress, not yet settled; but we are doubtless safe in saying now, that it will be in season for delegates to start in *packets* by the middle of June, or in the last *steamer* of that month.—Past experience proves that no arrangements satisfactory to all, can be made for taking out the delegates in a body; but we presume, that a passage out

## Miscellany.

### Ratcliffe Gordon.

A SKETCH FROM MEMORY.

BY EDMUND QUINCY.

THE ways by which the American Abolitionist fares through the wilderness of this world, though they be ways of wisdom, are not always peaceful, as men call peace, or pleasant, as the world counts pleasure. Now hath he to struggle through the Slough of Despond, and anon Apollyon "straddles over the whole breadth of the way" to do him battle. Messrs. Worldly Wiseman, Mistrust, and Timorous beset him at the outset of his pilgrimage; Envy, Superstition, and Pickthank hale him before Lord Hategood, as he wends through Vanity Fair; and for his best companions he often hath no better than Mr. Feeble-mind, Mr. Ready-to-halt, or Mr. Despondency, and his daughter, whose name was Much-afraid.

But, nevertheless, he hath his compensations and his consolations. Besides the comfortable and excellent things which are shown to him in the Interpreter's House at the beginning of his journey, and the cheering visions vouchsafed from the Delectable Mountains, when it is farther advanced, he hath much solace in the small company of the Elect, even Faithful and Hopeful, who keep pace with him unto the end. And, moreover, the casual societies into which he falls in the course of his pilgrimage are often full of interest and encouragement. His hospitable sympathies may sometimes, to be sure, be wasted on unworthy guests; but again amends is made him by finding that he has entertained an angel unawares.

I well remember one of these visitations which fell to my share, some ten "or bye Lady, inclining to" a dozen years ago; although I am afraid that the angelic character of my visitant may be doubted by some of the Brumagem saints that pass current hereabouts. To my mind, with all his alloy, he was worth them all. At that time I was (the Lord forgive me!) a practicing Counsellor at Law in Boston. One day a friend entered my chambers followed by an aged gentleman, whom he introduced to me as "Mr. Ratcliffe Gordon, formerly of Virginia, and now of Alabama." I was much struck by the appearance and bearing of my new acquaintance, who looked, as Fielding says Joseph Andrews did, "as one might think, who had never seen a lord, like a nobleman;" but I inly marvelled what business a gentleman, who had spent three quarters of a century between a breeding and a consuming Slave State, could have with me.

My friend, however, soon explained it by saying, "Mr. Gordon wished to be introduced to an Abolitionist, and so I have brought him to you." Adding, as he took his leave, having discharged his office, "and I think you will find him as vehement a one himself as your heart could desire!"

"An Abolitionist!" said I, turning to Mr. Gordon, I had hardly hoped to hear that, Sir, when I was told that you had lived all your life in the Slave States."

"Why so?" he returned a little testily, for though thoroughly well bred in his manners, he obviously belonged to the Sir Anthony Absolute school. "where should a man become an Abolitionist, if it be not in the Slave States? But," he continued, "I should not be an Abolitionist, if I lived in New England!"

"Ah, indeed! why so?"

"Why, I have heard more said in justification of Slavery, since I have been in Boston, than I ever heard in all my life in the Slave States. 'Why, Sir,' he went on, rising as he went, into a towering passion, "why, Sir, if I were a New England man and were insulted as I hear you insulted every day, I'd have the rascal out, Sir! I'd have his heart's blood, Sir!"

"May I ask the nature of the insults of which you speak?"

"Why, Sir," he replied, "no longer ago than yesterday, at the table d'hote of the Exchange Coffee House, a rascal" (the courteous reader will pardon me for preterm itting the paticular participle with which he qualified this noun substantive), "a rascal had the impudence to tell me that our Slaves are better off than your white laborers! Better off!" he exclaimed in a low tone of concentrated rage and contempt, "better off indeed! I never saw a white woman's child taken from her breast and sold before her eyes! or sold before it was born! And that's what I've seen hundreds of times done to Slaves!"

"And did you answer him, Sir?" I inquired.

"To be sure I did," he replied. "I told him just what I tell you now. That if I had been a New England man, I would have called him out, Sir! That I would have had his life's blood, Sir! Nothing but blood could have washed out such an insult as that."

And it is not unlikely he would have been as good as his word, for I found out afterwards that, forty years before, with a zeal worthy of the Scotchman in Zelucu, who fought in vindication of the honor of Mary, Queen of Scots, he had fought a duel to resent some disrespectful expressions used in his hearing about the elder Adams. For my old friend was a Federalist of the most determined type. He was a neighbor, personal friend, and political supporter of Washington; but, Virginian as he was, John Adams and Timothy Pickering seemed to be the gods of his political idolatry.

I have no justification to offer for Mr. Gordon's adherence to the ancient custom of the "trial by battle," to the modern "tribunal of twelve paces," nor for some of his other customs and habits. For historical (or biographical) accuracy compels me to state (shocking as the statement must have been to General Taylor, and to all his reverend and pious supporters) that this my "angel unawares" *would* swear! O, how he would swear! I can only plead in palliation of the first failing, the manners and customs of the semi-barbarous countries where he had lived his life, and for the last, the almost universal usage of his day and generation; of which we have seen the remains tarnishing the perfection of the high breeding of many a gentleman of the old school, of whom so few now remain upon the stage. But justice to my old friend requires me to say that his loudest and deepest curses were ever reserved for Slavery and its apologists.

I think I never met with any one so penetrated with abhorrence of the Slave system, or so thoroughly acquainted with it in all its details, as Mr. Gordon. The familiarity of seventy-five years, with every phase of its abomination, seemed to have had no hardening effect upon his heart. They were ever new to him, and his indignation against them was ever fresh. He had been born and bred a Slaveholder, and had remained his Slaves until about twenty years before the time I knew him. Then he emancipated them.

"I could keep them no longer," said he to me, in answer to an inquiry of mine on this point, "I could keep them no longer; for *I tasted their sweat in my bread!*"

While he was in Boston, at this time, as he was passing through Ann Street, one day, a black man rushed out of a shop as he went by and overtook him with tears of joy. It was one of his emancipated Slaves. He took his old master to his shop, and to his house over it, and showed him his free and happy family. Mr. Gordon's own aged eyes were wet when he told me the story. Many as might have been the oaths registered in the Chancery of Heaven against my old friend, I do not think the Recording Angel could have looked down upon that scene and not have dropped a sympathising tear upon them that would have blotted them all out forever.

Mr. Gordon's emancipation of his Slaves made all the difference to him between competence and comparative poverty. He represented two of the old cavalier families of the Ancient Dominion, his ancestors, on both the Gordon and Ratcliffe side, having emigrated soon after the battle of Worcester —"Worcester's laureate wreath"—had placed the brewer of Huntingdon on the throne of the Stuarts. Like many of the old Virginia families, his had gradually fallen away as the curse of Slavery began to cling closer and closer to its victims. His patrimonial estates had dwindled away, and the twenty or thirty Slaves that remained to him were the chief of his substance. Had he retained and sold them, the proceeds would have made him easy, though not affluent, for life. As it was, after a few years, he sold what remained of the broad lands of his fathers, and emigrated in his old age to the extreme southern State (as men then esteemed southern extremes—we shall soon call it the *middle* State) of Alabama, where he resorted to the profession, which, like Washington, he had learned in his youth, of a Surveyor, for his subsistence. The object of his visit to Boston was the sale of an extremely beautiful map of his adopted State which he had prepared from his personal surveys.

Mr. Gordon always reminded me of characters one reads of in romances. A decayed gentleman with all the consciousness of what was due to himself, and all the sensitiveness to his treatment by others, which marks that melancholy and interesting character. His looks were singularly prepossessing. His head and face were strikingly like the busts of Washington, though on a smaller scale. His grey hair combed back from his forehead and tied by a ribbon behind, his spare, erect person, and his punctilious politeness, a little formal and ceremonious, perhaps, according to modern notions, might have been worked up to advantage by a novel-writer, had he fallen in the way of any of that light and frivolous generation. Even his choleric and testy ebullitions, called forth as they were by cruelty and meanness, chiefly, gave a piquancy and expression to his character, which I should have been loth to lose. He was, altogether, one of the most remarkable persons I have ever known.

Mr. Gordon gave the full weight of his testimony to the sufficiency of the measures of the modern Abolitionist. He recognized our philosophy and our method, as far as then developed, as the true way of the Slave's salvation. He wrote a letter to this effect, if I do not very much disremember, to Mr Garrison. He naturally took a deep interest in the course of the Misses Grimké, who were at that time actively engaged in their public Anti-Slavery labors. He was very desirous of a personal interview with them, but circumstances preventing it, he wrote them a letter of approbation and encouragement, exhorting them to persevere in the way upon which they had entered. It ended thus: "You have begun a good work, and I bid you go on. You *shall* prosper! Although you may not know the impression you have made, yet believe me, that impression is extensive and lasting; and believe me, who was once a holder of Slaves, you have kindled a fire which shall burn, and burn, until the whole system of Slavery is overthrown." This letter appeared in the Liberator of March 23, 1838, signed, "A FRIEND OF THE SLAVE." In this free country, it was unsafe for an inhabitant of a Slave State to blaspheme Slavery, even at the North, under his own proper signature! And even now I feel it prudent to conceal his real name and latest abode, under fictitious names, to guard against the possibility of bringing him into trouble, should he yet survive!

When Mr. Gordon had finished the business upon which he came to Boston, he bade me farewell with a hearty blessing on the cause, and then he went his way and I saw him no more. I had one letter from him after his return home; but from that time to this, I have never heard of him. I presume that he has been a long time dead. His great age and increasing infirmities, together with the lapse of eleven years, make this almost certain. I have delayed this account of him, which I always intended to put on record, until I could feel morally sure that he was beyond the troubling of the wicked, and that he had entered into the rest that awaits the weary. I have described him as I remember him, and I am sure that I have "nothing extenuated." I have not endeavored to erect him into a Saint, according to the present scheme of canonization. He made no pretensions to superior godliness or goodness. But his words showed that he was no hypocrite, his actions proved that his heart was magnanimous and humane. There are worse men than Ratcliffe Gordon, who can preach and pray against Slavery and War and then choose for their Chief Ruler the incarnation of both these crimes, who would stand afar off from him and thank God that they are not as this profane swearer and duellist. But when all these errors of his speech and of his life were weighed in the balance of the Divine Justice against his habitual love of mankind, so nobly manifested in the crowning act of his history, I hope and believe that he went up to the house appointed for all living justified rather than they.

Dedham, November, 1848. —*Liberty Bell.*

### POPULAR MEDICAL ERRORS.

FROM CHAMBERS' EDINBURGH JOURNAL.

*Warts.*—"It is a popular belief," says Mr. Erasmus Wilson, "that the blood which flows from warts, when wounded, will cause them to grow on whatever parts of the skin the blood touches; and schoolboys, who love experiments, occasionly adopt this method of transplanting them, but *without success.* Indeed, there is no truth in the supposition: and if a fresh crop should be produced around a wart that has been teased by a schoolboy, the fact, when it happens, admits of a more philosophical explanation. Another idea respecting warts is, that they may be charmed away—an idea by-the-bye of considerable antiquity, but one which still prevails, or at least did not so long ago. It was supposed that the wart might be mysteriously transplanted, and then buried. Mr. Pettigrew tells us, that in a letter from Mr. Hann to the Hon. Robert Boyle, allusion is made to the cure of warts—"by taking an elder stick, and cutting as many notches in it as there are warts; then rubbing it upon the warts, and burying it, in a dunghill." He also says that Grose gives for the removal of these excrescences direction "to steal a piece of beef from a butcher's shop, and rub your wart with it—then throw it down the necessary-house, or bury it, and, as the beef rots, your warts will decay. Fortunately we are now in possession of more effectual means for removing warts, so that the charms may be said to have lost their charm.

*That Blisters not Rising show the Patient to be Dying.*—It is very certain that a blister will not rise on a dead man, any more than on a hair trunk: but there is a very ridiculous notion, that if a blister does not rise, it is proof that the patient is likely to die. I need not say that many circumstances may prevent the operation of a blister: and if we have no better evidence of approaching dissolution than its failure we are bound to suspect that the blister has been very inefficiently managed.

*That Disease Changes at Particular Periods.*—This is one of those notions, which, as we shall have many occasions to remark of others, is partly true and partly false; and perhaps medical men are themselves in some degree divided upon the subject.—Some complaints undoubtedly observe regular periods; and others, which are less known to do so, may in reality observe a law of periodicity which has yet to be discovered. We do not, therefore, wish to deny the possibility of nature's operating in this manner, and are far from wishing to circumscribe the limits of natural phenomena by our own information; still, it seems to us that some people make assumptions beyond what the present information on the subject will warrant. "My daughter was taken ill at ten this morning; now at ten to-night I expect a change. What do you think, doctor?" Or another was taken ill on Friday at six, and the next Friday at six the mother will consider a most critical period. The fact is, every patient has his own reading of the case: one thinks every twelve hours important; another, the same hour daily; a third, the same day of the week, or perhaps fortnight; so that these people are not even agreed themselves as to the period.

*Tide.*—Somewhat similar to this idea is that of supposing the ebb and flow of the tide to influence disease. I have known people who are in in expectation of the death of a friend to look forward to the ebb of the tide as a circumstance likely to determine the event. This notion is alluded to by Shakspeare in his description of Falstaff's death. "It is highly characteristic, even to the medical reader. Dame Quickly says,*—"'A made a finer end, and went away an it had been any Christian child: 'a parted even just between twelve and one, e'en at turning o' the tide: for after, I saw him fumble with the sheets, and play with flowers, and smile upon his fingers' ends, I knew there was but one way; for his nose was as sharp as a pen, and 'a babbled of green fields." It is at least a fine and poetical idea, that the retreat of the ocean carries back with it the departing spirit to its final resting-place—to the distant shores where the golden clouds of heaven mingle with the glorious deep. With such an idea, the fisherman, as he watches over his dying child, would listen with secret awe to the distant roar of the retiring waters.

*That a Man has a Rib less than a Woman.*—We should scarcely have imagined that this error could be seriously entertained, had we not been once or twice actually questioned on the subject. The absurdity of such an opinion is so easily demonstrated by inspection of the skeleton, that controversy cannot arise. Whatever Adam's condition may have been, our fair partners do not now exist at the expense of our ribs.

*That Clever Children will not Live Long.*—Delicate constitutions are not unfrequently associated with precocious minds. With scrofulous and consumptive habits there are often combined states of intellectual brightness, which only render more deplorable the untimely death which ensues. This being a subject of general remark, it is not uncommon to regard the early indications of genius with a certain fearful presentiment of a premature fate.—Shakspeare says—

"So wise, so young, they say do ne'er live long."

This connection of premature indications of talent

* King Henry V., Act ii.

and early death is, however, far from being a constant one. A striking instance of the contrary may be mentioned as having occurred in the great Haller. We are almost afraid to relate what is told of the youth, lest we appear to be seeking only for the marvellous. We may say generally, however, that while at an early age, he displayed the most extraordinary industry and research, as well as the most brilliant talents; yet he reached a very considerable age.

*"Eye of Lunatics."*—There is altogether an extravagant notion about the appearance of lunatics—some people imagine that an insane man can be detected at once by the appearance of the eye, and feel a sort of disappointment on going through asylums to see the inmates looking like other people. We believe there are persons sufficiently romantic to suppose that all insane women are beautiful. Like Sterne's Maria, they expect to see them in white, with long disheveled hair, and perchance a goat, attached by a silken cord, sitting at their sides. Some lunatics have undoubtedly a very curious and characteristic expression—a kind of side glance, with a stealthy pace, and an unmeaning smile continually playing on the countenance; but a great many people with disordered intellects look exactly like their fellow men, and there is not that particular appearance of the eye which speaks infallibly and at once the abberration of the mind. It will be conceded, then, at any rate, that the common notion is an extravagant one, and this kind of test altogether fallacious.

*Wind of a Ball.*—Old soldiers are proverbially fond of story-telling, and perhaps rival the barbers in this respect. It is natural enough that they should like to recount the deeds they have done: and, as Goldsmith says—"shoulder the crutch, and show how fields are won." You ask that poor fellow with the wooden leg how it was that he lost his limb?—you suppose it was a cannon ball that struck it. "Oh, dear, no, sir; it was from the *wind* only. The leg was no more touched than your own; the skin all unbroken and unbruised; but the bone crushed and soft. The ball," he says, "must have passed close by it." On this subject even professional men have been in some hesitation; but I will quote the words of a very eminent army surgeon, who has only lately been removed from among us.

Mr. Samuel Cooper says,* "A cannon ball, especially when nearly spent, frequently strikes the surface of the body or limb obliquely, and is reflected without breaking the skin. A soldier may be killed in this way without any appearance of external violence. His comrades suppose, therefore, that he has been killed by the *wind of a ball!* But the error of this opinion is immediately manifest when it is remembered that cannon balls often carry away parts of the dress without doing any harm to the person." Mr. Druitt, the author of a valuable little manual of surgery, accounts for these so-called wind-contusions in a similar manner; and quotes the celebrated Baron Larrey in support of his views.

*Shoulder growing Out.*—A very common phrase is that of the shoulder growing out, and no little apprehension is occasioned by it. It is not uncommon to see a projection of the shoulder-blade, and this does indeed appear to non-professional eyes like a direct outward growth of the bone. Such is not, however, the case in reality: the protrusions of the shoulder-blade being the result of a curvature of the spine, which so alters the position of the ribs as to cause the jutting out of the shoulder-blade. The spine, therefore, and not the shoulder, should be the object of solicitude in such cases. This I have no doubt is well known to most educated persons; but still just worthy of mention in connection with the correction of the popular errors; for occasionally we meet with quacks who recommend iron plates to press back the bone, and which only bear upon some part of the distempered spine, which is not calculated for such injurious machinery.

*Healing Medicine.*—Many medicines are said to be what is called *healing*. Frequently we are asked whether such and such a medicine be not very healing to the stomach and bowels. Spermaceti was formerly considered as one of this class of medicines, and the spermaceti draught was a favorite remedy in old times with obstetric practitioners.†

† See Ramsbotham, p. 188—"Practice of Obstetric Medicine."

Shakspeare, in Hotspur's description of a fop, makes him say, that

"'the sovereign'st thing on earth
Is spermaceti for an inward bruise."

There is less reason, however, to doubt the part of his speech which relates to the "villanous effects of saltpetre, which many a good tall fellow has destroyed." The old women will be telling us every now and then that a little linseed-tea would be very healing to the lungs. Persons with notions of this kind seem to me to be very easily satisfied with medical reasoning. They never go on to ask how the effect is produced, or upon what foundation the evidence rests. This brings us to speak of popular credulity in the efficacy of drugs.

*That Medicines find out the Exact Place of the Disease.*—Though we are by no means one of those who would underrate the efficacy of medicine, we must confess that the popular belief is in many instances much too favorable. There is a growing spirit in these days, however, to fall into the opposite extreme, which in its turn is mischievous. The believers in physic are sometimes not content with a general acquiescence in the virtues of drugs, but suppose that the medicine finds its way at once to the particular seat of the disorder—what the chemists would call a sort of *elective affininity* between the physic and the diseased organ. "Doctor, I feel it working at the complaint. My arm certainly hurts me a good deal more to-night, but I suppose it is the medicine which is '*finding out the disease!*'" The doctor who supports such a view deserves finding out himself. Medicines have undoubtedly more or less influence on particular organs of the body, or at least different organs have different capabilities of eliminating medicines from the body; but to suppose that a medicine pursues a disease like a cat running after a mouse is more amusing than true. The patient will often tell you, however, that since he has taken his bottle, the disease is evidently quitted its old quarters, and is beating a kind of retreat under cover, perhaps, of some artillery of pain.

* Elements of Surgery, p. 175.

From the Boston Courier.

### THE NEW HAMPSHIRE STONE-THROWING SPIRIT OF 1688.

To tell strange feats of Demons, here I own:
Strange, but most true they are, even to a Dram,
Tho' Sadducees cry, 'tis all a Sham. R. C.

This is an age of Scepticism. Incredulity is the humor of it. No one believes anything that is not palpable to his senses of feeling and sight, and some are even so far gone in their adhesion to the Pyrrhonian doctrine, that they begin to doubt whether they have senses or not. Neither Andrew Jackson Davis nor Mr. Leroy Sunderland, though one reveals his own actual personal experience, and the other exhibits the most astonishing power over the physical faculties of man,—has power to convert this nation of unbelievers. Humbug! Humbug! is still the cry. I feel constrained to raise my feeble voice against this soul-destroying infidelity; and to let my readers know that the mysterious rappings and all the miracles wrought by Mesmerism and Biology, are less than nothing compared with events that happened more than a century ago, the evidence of which is no more to be questioned than the universally recognized dogma, that a person of dark complexion cannot breathe in the atmosphere north of thirty-six thirty—which, if any one doubt, let him be "anathema-maranatha."

It is presumed that few, if any of those who take the pains to read these papers have ever heard of the Stone-throwing Devil. Let such open their eyes and receive instruction, if wisdom "through that entrance be" not "quite shut out."

In the year one thousand six hundred and ninety-eight, there was printed and published in London, a quarto volume, of which the following is the title, to wit:—LITHOBOLIA, or the Stone-throwing Devil. Being an Exact and True account (by way of Journal) of the various Actions of Infernal Spirits, or (*Devils Incarnate*) witches, or both; and the great Disturbance and Amazement they gave to *George Walton's* Family, at a place call'd *Great Island* in the Province of *New Hampshire* in *New England*, chiefly in Throwing about (by an Invisible Hand) *Stones, Bricks, Brickbats* of all sizes, with several other things, as *Hammers, Mauls, Iron-Crows, Spits* and other Domestic Utensils, as came into their Hellish minds, and this for the space of a Quarter of a Year.—By R. C. Esq., who was a Sojourner in the same Family, the whole Time, and an Ocular witness of these Diabolick Inventions. The Contents hereof being manifestly known to the Inhabitants of that Province, and persons of other Provinces, and is upon Record in his Majesties Council-Court held in that Province."

According to the "Record," as stated above, the "Lithoboly" began on a Sunday evening, when two maids, grand-children of Mr. Walton affirmed that as they were standing in the porch-chamber window, they saw a person putting out a hand out of the hall-window as throwing stones towards the porch! On Monday night, "about the hour it first began," stones were thrown in the kitchen and down the chimney, "one Captain Barefoot, of the Council for that Province, being present." On Tuesday night, five or six stones were thrown into the maid's chamber, near the kitchen, the glass windows broke *in three new places*, and "one of the maids hit as she lay." But this was not the only prank which the Devil played that evening; for, not only the maids but two young men in the house, "heard an odd, dismal sort of whistling," whereupon the young men ran out with the intent to take the Stone-throwing Devil, but the Devil was too sharp for them. They saw nothing, and "heard as it were the trampling of a young colt." Stones were thrown about the fields where the master and his men were at work. Mr. Woodbridge, a minister, saw them come rumbling and trembling on the grass," but could not see any hand throwing them. One Mrs. Clark and her son saw and felt them too. "One person would not be persuaded but that the boys at work might throw them, and straight her little boy, standing by her, was struck with a stone on the back, which caused him to fall a crying, and her (being convinced) to carry him away forthwith." A righteous punishment for her unbelief,—whereat, I trust, the infidels, for whose conversion I make this epitome, will take warning.

These, and similar operations, were carried on daily and nightly, and the detail for one day or night will serve, with but little variation, for every other. Great stones fell in the kitchen, usually about the time when some of the family were going to bed; the pewter was thrown down from the shelves; stones and bricks were thrown against the doors and through the windows. Mr. Walton and five or six that were with him in his field, were assaulted frequently with stones: sometimes they were hit, *but not hurt.* Once, however, he "was hit on the back with stones very grievously." Sometimes there was heard a humming noise in the air, like a bullet discharged from a gun; "a noise, like that of snorting and whistling," was generally heard by the men at work. Sometimes the Devil seemed disposed to play a merry prank. One night the cocks of hay, made the day before in the orchard, "were spread all abroad;" some of the hay was thrown among the branches of the trees, and some of it brought into the house and scattered about the rooms. Two logs that lay at the door were very strangely disposed of—one of them *being laid by the chimney in the kitchen,* (?) the other set up against the door of the room where Mr. Walton lay, as if to confine him therein! A form that stood in the entry or porch, was "set along by the fireside, and a joint stool upon that, with a napking spread thereon, with two pewter pots, and two candlesticks." A cheese was taken out of the press, and broke to pieces. A snorting was heard, the candles were put out several times: and a negro maid was hit on the head with a porringer from the kitchen.

It seems that every member of this unfortunate family had a share of the affliction. At young Walton's house, half a brick was thrown into a cradle, out of which his young child was newly taken up. This was certainly very kind and considerate of the Devil, to withold the brick till the child was out of danger.

One of the most remarkable incidents happened to Mr. Walton himself. He was going up the river Pascataqua, in his boat, and loading it with hay for use at his house—when about mid-way in the river, he found his boat in a sinking condition, at which, being much surprised, upon search, he discovered the cause to be the pulling out a plug or stopple in the bottom of the boat, being fixed there for the more convenient letting out of the rain-water that might fall into it; a contrivance and combination of the old Serpent and the old woman, or some other witch or wizzard (in revenge or inmate enmity) to have drowned both the good landlord and his company."

The author of this work was not exempt from the assaults of this malignant demon, although he was but a temporary lodger in the house of Mr. Watson. His bed-chamber was the scene of inexplicable mischief. Large stones, some as *big as his fist*, were thrown through the window, and the bits of glass often came near hitting his eyes,—intended as he believed, to deprive himself of sight but providentially, without effect. He came near having his head broke with "a maul, or great hammer, breaking the top or roof of the room," as he was walking in it, and lighting down near by him; but it fell so that his landlord had the greatest damage, "his windows being with many stones, miserably and strangely battered, most of the stones giving the blow on the inside, and forcing the casements outwards, and yet falling back a yard or two into the room; only one little stone was taken out of the glass of the window, where it lodged itself in the breaking it, in a hole exactly fit for the stone." The pewter and brass were frequently pelted and thrown down upon the ground; "for the Evil Spirit seemed to effect variety of mischief, and diverted himself at this end after he had done so much execution at the other." Some of the stones that were thrown about were taken up hot, as immediately coming out of the fire.

Some exceedingly strange things happened to Mr Walton when he was at work in the woods with his men; but I pass them over to give room for the incidents of a day and evening, that were witnessed by others than the author. I give his own account without alteration or abridgement:—

"Being come to his own house, Mr. Walton was charged again with a fresh assault in the out-Houses; but we heard of none within doors, until Friday after, when in the Kitchen, were four or five Stones (one of them hot) taken out of the Fire, as I conceived, and so thrown about. I was then present, being newly come in with Mr. Walton from his middle Field (as he called it) where his servants had been mowing, and had six or seven of his old troublesome companions, and I had one fall'n down by me then, and another thin flat stone hit me on the Thigh with the flat side of it, so as to make one just feel, and to smart a little. In the same Day's Evening, as I was walking out in the Land, by the Field before mentioned, a great Stone made a rushing noise in the Stone-Fence between the Field and the Lane, which seem'd to me (as it caus'd me to cast my eye that way by the Noise) to come out of the Fence, as it were pull'd out from among those Stones loose, but orderly laid close together, as the manner of such Fences in that country is, and so fell down upon the ground. Some persons of Note being then in the Field (whose Names are hereunder-written) to visit Mr. Walton there, are substantial Witnesses of this same Stonery, both in the Field, and afterward by the House that Night, viz. an Mr. Hussey, Son of a Counsellour there. He took up one that having first alighted on the Ground, with rebound from thence, but hit him on the Hat; and he keeps it to show. And Captain Bareloot, mentioned above, has that which (among other Stones) flew into the Hall a little before Supper; which myself also saw as it first came in at the upper part of the Door into the middle of the Room; and then (tho' a good flat Stone, yet) was seen to rowl over and over, as it trundled, under a Bed in the same Room. In short, these Persons being wonderously affected with the Strangeness of these Passages, offer'd themselves (desiring me to take them) as Testimonies; I did so, and made a *Memorandum*, by way of Record, thereof to this effect. *Viz:*—

*These persons under-written do hereby Attest the Truth of their being Eye-Witnesses of at least half a score Stones that Evening thrown invisibly into the Field and in the Entry of the House. Hall, and one of the Chambers of George Walton's. Viz:*

Samuel Jennings, *Esq., Governor of* West-Jarsey.

Walter Clark, Esq. *Deputy Governor of* Road Island.

*Mr.* Arthur Cook.

*Mr.* Math Borden *of* Road-Island.

*Mr.* Oliver Hooton *of* Barbadoes, *Merchant.*

*Mr.* T. Maul *of* Salem in New England, *Merchant.*

*Captain* Walter Barefoot.

*Mr.* John Hussey.

*And the wife of the said Mr.* Hussey.

Now, will any one, after reading this well-attested proof of the intercourse of Spirits with Men, doubt the revelations that are now so frequently reported in the newspapers? Surely, if a Spirit,—no matter whether 'a Spirit of health, or goblin damn'd,"—can throw stones, pile logs against doors, rattle pewter dishes, pull plugs from the bottom of boats, make flat stones trundle under a bed, spread hay-cocks and snort and whistle,—that same spirit, or any other, must be a poor spirit indeed if it cannot designate the letters of the alphabet by *rappings*. Our modern spirits seem, hitherto, to be perfectly harmless; at least no accounts have been published of their performing any acts similar to those recorded by "R. C."

The stone-throwing Devil became so troublesome to Mr. Walton and his family, that it was deemed expedient to adopt some measures to restrain his mischievous disposition; and one day, after a night of prodigious annoyance in the breaking of windows and the rattling of pewter, they tried this experiment:—

They did set on the Fire a Pot with Urin, and crooked Pins in it, with design to have it boil, and by that means to give Punishment to the Witch, or Wizard, (that might be the wicked Procurer or Contriver of this Stone Affliction) and take off their own; as they had been advised. This was the Effect of it: As the Liquor began to grow hot, a Stone came and broke the top or mouth of it, and threw it down, and spilt what was in it; which being made good again, another Stone, as the Pot grew hot again, broke the handle off; and being recruited and fill'd the third time, was then with a third Stone broke to pieces and split; and so the operation became frustrate and fruitless."

Now, as there can be no doubt that certain ladies residing among us can summon spirits, and hold conversation with them,—albeit, it is not yet known that any of the spirits so called have discovered any malignant or diabolical disposition,—would it not be advisable as a matter of precaution, for every family be prepared with the ingredients, used by the family of Mr. Walton; so that, in case any of the ladies, referred to above, should take it into their heads to summon a spirit of a mischievous temper, a defence against its mad or malicious pranks may be at hand and ready for use! For, it is certain that no spirit, witch, necromancer, or other *superhuman* being, could withstand the potency of such a charm, *if it could be made to boil;* the steam whereof would expel all spiritual substances; and hence the reason that Mr. Walton's pot was thrice broken is quite apparent. Q. E. D.

## Gleanings from Foreign Publications.

——MARINER'S COMPASS.—The "fleur de lis" was made the ornament of the northern radius of the mariner's compass in compliment to Charles of Anjou (whose device it was), the reigning King of Sicily, at the time when Flavio Gioja, the Neapolitan, first employed that instrument in navigation.—*Notes and Queries.*

——KOSSUTH COMING TO AMERICA.—The *Gomer Polski* announces that the affair of the Hungarian Refugees has been finally arranged. America has offered them an asylum which they have accepted, and has undertaken to provide for their wants; the Ottoman Government pays their expenses to Liverpool, and the English Government their expenses thence to America. This arrangement was proposed by the Ottoman Government and acceeded to by England and America.

——AT night comes Mrs. Turner to see us; and there, among other talk, she tells me that Mr. William Penn, who is lately come over from Ireland, is a Quaker again, or some very melancholy thing; that he cares for no company, nor comes into any: which is a pleasant thing after being abroad so long, and his father such a hypocritical rogue, and at this time an Atheist.—*Pepys's Diary.*

——A MIRACLE is alleged to have recently taken place in the church of St. Saturnin, canton and arrondissement of Apt, department of the Vaucluse, consisting in the flowing of blood from a picture representing the descent of Jesus Christ from the cross. The occasion was the fervent prayer of a girl named Rosette Tamisier. The flux of blood from the painting has been observed and testified to by several witnesses, including an Arch-Bishop and Clergyman, officer of gend'armes, and a sub-Prefect. Rosette, on being interrogated by the sub-Prefect, said: "God has affected this miracle for the conversion of sinners, and he had specially chosen St. Saturnin, because, four years ago, this locality was the witness of a great scandal. "Her conduct," she added, "had been outrageously calumniated, as also that of a priest; but she had not demanded reparation from God." On the 20th, the sub-prefect, accompanied by M. Guillibert, Judge d'Instruction, and M. Jacques, substitute of the Procureur of the Republic, went to St. Saturnin; the Archbishop of Avignon had arrived on the previous evening. After paying his respects to the prelate, the sub-prefect went, in company with Dr. C. Bernard, an eminent physician of Apt, towards the church. As they were ascending the hill on which it is situated, they heard the bell ring 'this,' says the functionary, 'was the signal of the commencement of the manifestation of the prodigy.' He was much vexed at it, as he was desirous of being in the chapel 'before the appearance of the oozing of the blood.' But they hurried on. A number of persons were assembled round the church. The curé met him; he announced that the oozing of the blood had commenced, but that he could not open the church until the arrival of the Archbishop. However, the sub-prefect insisted, and, at last, the curé let him in; he took with him Drs. Bernard and Clement. The high altar was lighted with wax candles; at one corner was Rosette Tamisier, kneeling in prayer, with her hands crossed, and her head leaning on the altar. She appeared completely absorbed in devotion. 'I ascended the table of the altar,' says the sub-prefect, 'accompanied by Dr. Clement; I examined the wound by the light of a wax candle; I ascertained that from those of the right hand the two feet, and heart, blood oozed. The drop of blood which was on the right hand visibly increased; it appeared to me like a drop of blood such as arises on the end of the finger, on being pricked by a sharp instrument, when the lower part is lightly pressed. It was at the moment at which the drop of blood of the right hand was about to fall or flow that I wiped it three several times with a piece of linen. The first two operations gave two very red stains of blood; in the third the stain was clearer. After this operation the wound remained perfectly dry. I also wiped several times the two wounds on the feet, and I remarked that the drops were clearer, and the oozing less sensible. I did the same to the wound on the right side; there were there a dozen drops of blood, which nearly formed the design of a heart. That of the middle presented the same phenomenon as that of the right hand and it was of a darkish color. Those that were around resembled, on the contrary, the drops of the feet. I took away the drop of the middle, and one or two on the right. At this moment the Archbishop entered the chapel. I accordingly left untouched the other drops of the wound on the side, and abstained from wiping the wound on the left hand, from which no blood had oozed. I descended from the altar. The archbishop, followed by a numerous body of the clergy, knelt at the foot of the altar, and after a short prayer examined the drops of blood which I had left at the wound of the heart, and he wiped them with a piece of linen. This piece of linen and mine were covered in all with about thirty drops of blood; and they were exhibited to the curiosity of the population, who filled the church. The clergy and a body of young girls sang hymns; and we waited in expectation of a new oozing, but none came. The girl Rosette Tamisier, who still remained absorbed in prayer, was asked several times if the blood would flow again. A first time she did not answer; a second, she did not know; a third, she did not believe it would. After this last reply, about an hour after the arrival of the Archbishop, the curé (M. Grand) caused the picture to be displaced, and workmen turned it round. We examined it with a good deal of care, but I saw no particular mark. The canvass was perfectly dry; a thick coating of pitch covered all the back, and it was placed against a very thick wall. This was all the part I had in the event. The Archbishop then proceeded to celebrate mass, and I went away to draw up an account of what I have seen. I then visited Rosette Tamisier, whom I found suffering and greatly discouraged. She announced to me that she believed the prodigy would be renewed. And, in fact, I have since received a report from the Mayor of St Saturnin, announcing that at nine in the morning of Saturday, the 21st ult, there was again an abundant oozing of blood."

The *Courier de Lyons* states that the blood which is said to have issued from the wounds in the side of our saviour, as represented in the painting in the church of St. Saturnin, has been analyzed by two medical men, who have declared that its chemical composition exactly corresponds with that of human blood.—*Galignani's Messenger of the 29th December.*

——THE THREE SISTERS—CURRER, ELLIS, AND ACTON BELL.—Three years ago appeared "Jane Eyre," by Currer Bell; "Wuthering Heights," by Ellis Bell; and "Agnes Grey," by Acton Bell. The critics were puzzled with these Bells. Were they only one? and was that one a man or a woman? The mystery has now been cleared in a preface to "Wuthering Heights" and "Agnes Grey." They were three sisters, the eldest of whom Miss, *alias* Currer, Bell, alone survives; and describes their home as—"a village parsonage, among the hills bordering Yorkshire and Lancashire. The scenery of these hills is not grand—it is not romantic; it is scarcely striking. Long low moors, dark with heath, shuts in little valleys, where a stream scarcely turns here and there, a fringe of stunted copse. Mills and scattered cottages chase romance from these valleys; it is only higher up, deep in among the ridges of the moors, that imagination can find rest for the sole of her foot: and even if she finds it there, she must be a solitude-loving raven,—no gentle dove. If she demand beauty to inspire her she must bring it in-born; these moors are too stern to yield any product so delicate. About five years ago, my two sisters and myself, after a somewhat prolonged period of separation, found ourselves reunited and at home. Resident in a remote district where education had made little progress, and where, consequently, there was no inducement to seek social intercourse beyond our own domestic circle, we were wholly dependent on ourselves and each other, on books and study, for the enjoyments and occupations of life. One day, in the Autumn of 1845, I accidentally lighted on a MS. volume of verse in my sister Emily's handwriting. Of course, I was not surprised, knowing that she could write verse; I looked it over, and something more than surprise seized me,—a deep conviction that these were not common effusions, nor at all like the poetry women generally write. Meantime, my younger sister quietly produced some of her own compositions, intimating that, since Emily's had given me pleasure, I might like to look at hers. I could not but be a partial judge, yet I thought that these verses too had a sweet sincere pathos of their own. We had very early cherished the dream of one day becoming authors. This dream never relinquished even when distance divided and absorbing tasks occupied us, now suddenly acquired strength and consistency; it took the character of a resolve. We agreed to arrange a small selection of our poems, and, if possible, get them printed. Averse to personal publicity, we veiled our own names under those of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell; the ambiguous choice being dictated by a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names positively masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women because—without at that time suspecting that our mode of writing and thinking was not what is called 'feminine'—we had a vague impression that authoresses are liable to be looked on with prejudice; we had noticed how critics use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward, a flattery, which is not true praise